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DAMASCUS STEADFASTNESS FRONT CONCLUDES, ISSUES STATEMENT

Unified Military Command Discussed

LD221256Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Sep 78 LD

[Text] The Beirut paper AS-SAFIR today reports that the countries at the Damascus Confrontation and Steadfastness Front Conference are discussing a plan to set up a unified military command. The paper says it was Syria which put forward the plan, attributing this to sources at the conference. The paper has reported that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO, has agreed to the unified military command plan. In Kuwait, the paper AL-WATAN has referred to a similar proposal put forward by the Syrian president.

Drafting Committee Meets

JN221715Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 22 Sep 78 JN

[Text] The drafting committee emanating from the third summit conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front resumed its meetings this afternoon to complete its task. The committee held a meeting at the conference building which lasted from 0930 to 1430 today. At the meeting the draft resolutions of the conference were formulated. Taking part at the meetings were the front's foreign ministers, the PLO official spokesman and a number of specialists.

Limited 23 Sep Meeting

JN231418Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1355 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 23 September--At 1500 today the fourth session of the third summit conference of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation was concluded. This session was confined to the heads of the delegations and the foreign ministers. The foreign ministers will meet again at 1600 today to put the final touches on the statement of the third summit conference. This will be followed by the final session of the conference.

Plenary 23 Sep Session

JN232023Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1955 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 23 September--At 2115 today the third summit conference of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation held a session attended by the heads and members of the delegations. This session is in preparation for the final session, at which the conference's final statement will be issued.

Disagreement Over Defense Fund

JN232030Y Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2000 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] In Damascus, disagreement over the size of a joint defense fund tonight delayed the release of the final communique at the steadfastness conference of Arab countries opposed to Egypt's peace move. They [presumably sources] said the dispute was over the size of individual contributions by the Libyan Jamahiriyyah, Algeria, and Syria--the major countries of the five-member front.

The sources said that the front agreed to the establishment of a joint political and military command and for the creation of a general secretariat.

The summit was due to end tonight on the eve of a visit to Syria by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance on the final leg of a Middle East tour. Mr Vance's visit was postponed 24 hours at the request of the Syrians.

A source close to the front said that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad would visit the Soviet Union and several unnamed Arab countries in few days to explain the front's strategy.

'Arafat Addresses Final Session

JN232212Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Speech delivered by Yasir 'Arafat at the final session of the steadfastness summit conference held in Damascus this evening--recorded]

[Text] There is no doubt, brothers, that this is a historic day in dissipating the darkness which the United States and its Arabic-speaking and Hebrew-speaking agents have created to dominate our Arab area. It is a historic day because this conference represents the real spirit of our Arab nation--the spirit of struggle, challenge and confrontation as well as the ingeniousness of this immortal Arab nation.

We are meeting here in Damascus--we of the revolution, Arabism, challenge and confrontation--to say no to capitulation, no to bowing down, and yes to confrontation and yes to challenge. Mr President, please accept the thanks of all of us on behalf of my brothers who are participating. Please accept our thanks to the heroic Syrian people, who recorded heroic battles in the history of our Arab nation. I also offer my thanks, as well as the thanks of my brothers, for the heroic Syrian Army that is achieving and standing fast to achieve the miracle with its steadfastness, strength and faith. We shall be together and side by side until victory, until victory, until victory. [applause]

Al-Asad Addresses Final Session

JN232225Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2120 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--The third summit conference of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation held a final session at 2115 today in the presence of President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic; Houari Boumediene, president of the Algerian Democratic People's Republic; Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, secretary general of the General People's Congress in the Libyan Jamahiriya; 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidential Council and prime minister of the PDRY; and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The session ended at 2230 today.

At the end of the session, newsmen and photographers and the correspondents of Arab and world news agencies gathered. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad made a speech winding up the work of the conference. Following is a recording of the speech:

Messrs Presidents, Messrs members of the delegations: We conclude this conference of ours today--the conference of steadfastness. We have had detailed discussions in numerous sessions. We have discussed the results of the capitulationist meeting in Camp David and the consequences of this meeting. In fact, what has happened is regarded as the ugliest crime ever witnessed by our Arab nation. This is so because what has happened was not merely a separate deal, for the real meaning of the term separate deal is treachery, division of the issue, and relinquishment of the cause. What has happened is a sellout of the Arab lands and the Palestine issue, and it is regarded as a complete transfer to the enemy ranks and an alliance with the enemy. One hopes that there will not be many Arab governments that will support this treacherous line.

The front of steadfastness must certainly be the torch which honest Arabs are waiting for, because these Arabs everywhere are upholding their rights, heritage, dignity, lands, and holy places, and they are looking to this front to be that torch.

What has happened is a deep stab in the back of the Arab nation. It is a stab at the dignity of the Arab nation. It is a grave stab at the process of peace which they are talking about, because peace cannot be based on the relinquishment of the rights of peoples. Anyone who reads the documents issued by the Camp David conference can realize how the Palestine issue was relinquished. The Palestine issue was concentrated on day and night. The aim of this concentration was not to defend or protect this issue but to stab it and hand it over to the enemy like a slaughtered lamb.

President Anwar as-Sadat wanted to prove something. He wanted to prove his sincerity regarding what he had told and promised Israel. Therefore, he regarded the strike which was staged by the Palestinian masses in the occupied areas as a subversive act. He decided to punish these Palestinian masses by confronting them through his confrontation of the PLO, thereby saving Israel the burden of this effort and proceeding from the assumption that kinsmen have priority in dealing with one another. He has saved Israel the trouble of carrying out this task. However, what is the extent of As-Sadat's capability to do this? What is the extent of his capability in everything he has done?

Can he fulfill all his promises to Israel? Can he actually sell out the Palestine issue? Can he sell out the Golan? Can he sell out the independence of Egypt, particularly in Sinai? Can he consequently sell out the people of Egypt? He certainly cannot do so because such grave matters belong to the people and because people are always lying in wait for anyone trying to relinquish their issues or concede their rights.

These attempts to paralyse Egypt and to place Egypt in a course opposite to its pan-Arab, historic role are painful. I repeat and say that these attempts are painful and are indeed very painful--these attempts to place Egypt in a course opposite to its pan-Arab, historic role. However, regardless of time and regardless of the agreements concluded or to be concluded, the facts of history are constant. The fact about the one Arab nation is also constant. Therefore, Egypt will remain our Egypt, its people our people, and its army our army. Whether in the near or distant future, Egypt will return to exercise its natural role in the march of the Arab homeland and in its struggle against its enemies. If the Arab homeland fights, Egypt will fight, and if the Arab homeland goes after peace, Egypt will go after peace.

Our discussions during the conference have focused in a clear manner our determination to reject all forms of capitulation and to reject all attempts to impose capitulation. Our discussions have also focused our determination to reject all forms of acquiescence. You have all affirmed that acquiescence does not exist among us and that there is no room among us for the capitulationists. We are with the masses everywhere saying what the masses are saying: Anyone who acquiesces is not one of us.

Brother presidents, I thank you and I thank all the members of the delegations for the efforts which you have made and which have made this conference a success.

In conclusion, I want to say that our confidence in ourselves and in our nation is today as it was yesterday--strong and impregnable. Our confidence in the people and army of Egypt is today, as it was yesterday--strong and impregnable. Our confidence in our rights and the justice of our cause and the inevitability of our victory is strong and impregnable. Thank you. Peace be with you. [applause]

Final Statement, Proclamation

JN232320Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 2225 OMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 24 September--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister and official spokesman of the third summit conference of the states of the pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation, has read the final statement issued by the conference at the end of the final session.

The Final Statement:

At the invitation of President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, the third session of the summit conference of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation was held in Damascus from 20 to 23 September 1978. The following excellencies attended: President Houari Boumediene, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria; Col Mu'ammad al-Qadhafi, secretary general of the General People's Congress in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Presidential Council chairman and prime minister of the PDRY; and brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

The conferees reviewed the developments which took place after the Algiers conference on the Arab and international levels, including the continuation by President Anwar as-Sadat of his capitulationist policy. They also reviewed the work of the Camp David conference and its consequences. The conferees made an elaborate and comprehensive analysis of the current developments in the situation and concluded the following:

1. President as-Sadat's policy and the results of the Camp David conference are an extension of the U.S.-Israeli plotting against the Arab nation, the Palestine issue and the rights of the Palestinian people. They also overlook the objective facts of the Arab-Israeli dispute. This will only lead to intensification of tension in the area and to subjecting world peace and international security to the gravest danger.

2. Through his collusion with the Zionist enemy and imperialism at Camp David, President as-Sadat has plotted against the unity of the Arab cause and the supreme interests of the Arab nation. He has also violated the Arab League's charter, the joint Arab defense treaty, and the resolutions of the Arab summit conference in a serious attempt to liquidate the Palestine issue and undermine the political achievements of the Palestinian people accomplished through their struggle and with the blood of their martyrs.

3. Through his policy, President as-Sadat dealt a new blow to Arab solidarity when he took Egypt out of the arena of the Arab-Israeli dispute and made it an ally of the enemy, thereby threatening the Arab nation and trying to dominate its future and security.

4. President as-Sadat has relinquished the international concept of the just peace in the area--a peace based on the full Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab lands and the recognition of the national constant rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to return home, to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO--their sole, legitimate representative.

5. The agreements reached at Camp David are part of a general plan to establish the influence and the domination of U.S. imperialism and Zionism on Egypt, the Arab homeland and Africa and to use the Egyptian regime as a tool to strike at the national liberation movements.

6. The Camp David agreements represent approval by President as-Sadat of the Zionist plan to continue to usurp the Palestinian national soil, to keep the West Bank and Gaza as a colony under the domination of the Zionist occupation forces and to annex Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Thus, President as-Sadat has thrown away the sacrifices of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation for their soil and sanctities and has deviated from the charters of the Islamic congress organization and the OAU, from resolutions of the nonaligned states and from the international community's wish to liberate the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

7. President as-Sadat, who signed the Camp David agreements, had no authority to represent the Palestinian people and the Arab nation. Consequently, what was agreed upon with the Zionist enemy does not bind the Arab nation and is, therefore, considered null, void and illegal.

8. The Camp David agreements have violated the principles of the UN Charter and international law, as well as the resolutions of the United Nations, which clearly state that the acknowledgement of the rights of the Palestinian people and the withdrawal from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories are two basic preconditions for the establishment of just peace in the area.

The Arab nation has announced its rejection of the Camp David agreements, which aim at liquidating the Palestine question and the rights of the Palestinian people and at abandoning the Arab character of Jerusalem. This proves once again the isolation of the regime of President as-Sadat and its deviation from the unanimous wishes of the Arab nation.

Having deduced the facts and their serious results on the Arab and international situation as well as on the future of the struggle with the enemy, the conference adopted a number of resolutions and measures to bolster the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation to enable it to resist the conspiracy in which President as-Sadat is involved. These resolutions and measures are as follows:

A. To reject and condemn the agreements and results of Camp David and to stress the determination to oppose and foil them and to continue the struggle by every means against the Zionist enemy and imperialism.

B. To consider these capitulationist agreements as illegal and null and void as they abandon Arab and Palestinian rights and especially as these agreements were concluded and signed under conditions in which force is used in the Zionist occupation and in the continuation of this occupation.

C. To approve the declaration of the principles, the objectives and the institutions of the National Front of Steadfastness and confrontation.

D. To determine the strategy of the next phase on the following bases:

I. Not to recognize the legality of the Camp David agreements and to reject everything resulting therefrom.

II. To back the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

III. To pool the resources of the Arab nation and to achieve Arab solidarity on the basis of fighting the Zionist enemy and the Camp David results and to face up to this phase and the grave dangers and great harm it entails for the main objectives of the Arab nation.

IV. To warn the world public of the danger of the Camp David agreements to peace and security in the area and the world.

V. To call upon the Arab states to assume their national responsibilities, to adopt firm stands against the Camp David results, to face up to the coming critical phase, to join and cooperate with the front of steadfastness so that it can foil the results of the American-As-Sadat-Zionist conspiracy and also to back the steadfastness line in order to protect Arab national existence.

E. To break off economic and political relations with the Egyptian regime, including Egyptian establishments and companies, and to apply the decisions of the Arab boycott against Israel to all individuals dealing with the enemy.

F. To adopt practical measures to support the forces of steadfastness, of which Syria constitutes the primary base, and to work for providing all the requirements necessary to restore the strategic balance to the area in the aftermath of the Egyptian regime's walking out of the arena of struggle with the Zionist enemy.

G. To condemn the imperialist policy of the United States, its alliance with the Zionist enemy and As-Sadat's regime, and its continuation of a policy hostile to the rights and goals of the Arab nation. This has made the United States an enemy and it cannot be regarded as a mediator in the efforts made to achieve a just peace in the Arab area. The United States should bear the grave consequences resulting from, or which will result from, the Camp David conference.

H. To work to obtain the greatest possible international support of the just struggle of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation and to consolidate cooperation with the socialist countries, foremost of which is the Soviet Union, for the sake of protecting the independence of the Arab countries and preserving their freedom and progress and the gains of the Arab liberation movement.

In the framework of reviewing the situation in the Arab homeland, the conference expressed its profound concern over the continuation by a small group in Lebanon of dealing with the Israeli enemy and of subverting law and order in the city of Beirut as well as of working for the return of fratricide, the partition of Lebanon, and the destruction of the central government. The conference affirms its support for the unity, Arabism and national sovereignty of Lebanon, the conference has also expressed its satisfaction over and support of the security steps being taken by the Arab Deterrent Forces, the conference has also expressed its support of the stand of the Syrian Arab Republic in Lebanon since the aim of this stand is to contain the attempts at sedition--which was the goal of covering up the plot to liquidate the Palestine issue, to partition Lebanon and to establish on it sectarian statelets constituting support for the U.S.-As-Sadat-Israeli alliance. The conference has also asserted its support of all the Lebanese forces hostile to the Israeli design and those colluding with it.

The conference hails with pride the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied steadfast Palestinian lands in the face of occupation--the people who are struggling for the sake of liberation. The conference affirms the continuation of the pan-Arab commitment toward the Palestine issue and toward supporting the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their constant national rights under the leadership of the PLO.

The conference hails the Arab people of Egypt and lauds the heroism and efforts of the Egyptian people and army for the sake of the national issues. The conference is confident that the Egyptian Arab people, through their national awareness and patriotism will adopt an appropriate and decisive stand against As-Sadat's regime, which is working to push these people and this army into the sphere of U.S. subservience and to take Egypt out of its natural position in the field of Arab struggle against imperialism and against the Zionist enemy.

The conference expressed its deep concern over the denial of the national rights of the Arab people in the Western Sahara, particularly their right to self-determination. The conference strongly condemns all the measures which contradict this right. The conference reaffirms the need to enable the fraternal people of the Western Sahara to exercise the right of self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions and those of the OAU.

The conference discussed the developments affecting Yemen, the seriousness of the continuation of the state of tension between the two parts of Yemen, and the profound impact of this state on the brothers in Yemen and in the area. Therefore, the conference affirms the need to resolve the differences through dialog and peaceful means and methods on the basis of the mutual respect for the national sovereignty, independence, the joint interests of the two parts of Yemen, and noninterference in domestic affairs. The conference condemns all military and aggressive acts dragging the two parts of Yemen into armed clash, thereby serving the objectives of imperialism and Zionism.

The conference believes that the resolutions issued by the Arab League Council in the PDRY are contrary to the Arab League Charter and are illegal. The conference appreciates the responsible stand of the PDRY as expressed in its official statements and stands calling for resolving the differences between the brethren through peaceful means.

The conference expresses its profound concern over the foreign military presence in Oman. The conference asserts its support of the Omani people in their struggle for liberation and national sovereignty.

The conference reviewed the situation in the African Continent; it condemns imperialist intervention in the domestic affairs of the continent. The conference asserts its opposition to the racist regimes which constitute a natural ally of the racist Zionist entity. The conference declares its unlimited support of the African national liberation movements. The conference affirms its desire to expand the framework of the Arab-African dialog, to consolidate its foundations, and to extend it to various fields.

The conference believes that pan-Arab duty dictates firm support for the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the PLO since they constitute the solid base of struggle for the sake of preserving the rights of the Arab nation in Palestine and the resources and riches of the Arab homeland and for the sake of foiling the various forms of capitulationist and defeatist settlements which serve the ambitions of Zionism, U.S. imperialism, and the Israeli enemy throughout the Arab homeland.

The conference expresses its confidence that the forces loving peace, freedom and justice in the world will strengthen their support for Syria, the Palestinian people and the Arab nation in their just and legitimate struggle.

The conference pledges to the Arab nation to continue the march of struggle, steadfastness and challenge until the pan-Arab goals of the Arab nation are achieved.

Issued in Damascus on 21 Shawwal 1398 Hegira corresponding to 23 September 1978.

Afterward, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam read the declaration regarding principles, objectives and institutions. The following is the text of the declaration:

From the position of steadfastness and the determination to deal with the dangers threatening the Arab nation in its just struggle against the Zionist forces, imperialism, backwardness and division;

In defense of the nation's existence, security, destiny, rights, independence and economic and social progress;

In determination to achieve the Arab nation's aspirations of building military forces capable of facing all dangers, liberating the occupied Arab territories, regaining the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people and protecting the Palestine question from the conspiracies which aim at liquidating it and entrenching the Zionist existence;

Proceeding from the pan-Arab concept of the struggle which the Arab nation is waging in order to achieve Arab unity, liberate the Arab homeland, achieve progress, and build the Arab society which is capable of defending its existence and dignity and safeguarding its soil and contributing toward building a human civilization free of all forms of aggression, imperialism and domination;

In implementation of Paragraph 9 of the Tripoli Declaration of 5 December 1977, which provides for the establishment of a national front to unify resources and efforts in order to achieve the objectives of the Arab nation, an agreement has been reached on the following declaration:

The Formation of the Front

Article One: A national front to be called the Pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation shall be formed. The front shall be:

- 1) The base for national struggle and for mobilizing the Arab masses and their resources to achieve the supreme national objectives.
- 2) The Arab nation's tool in its battle against Zionism and imperialism and for steadfastness and liberation.
- 3) An Arab force open to all the Arab forces which want to participate in assuming their national responsibilities.

The Aims and Objectives

Article Two: The front has undertaken to achieve the following basic national aims:

- 1) To work for Arab unity, bolster the struggle for unity, try to remove any obstacle in the way of Arab unity and develop unity relations between the front member states and work for their economic and social progress.
- 2) To consider the Palestine question as the main Arab cause. Consequently, it is impermissible for any Arab side to concede or prejudice this commitment, or to take any action which might harm the Palestine question and the historic national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.
- 3) To completely liberate all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and not to concede or relinquish any of these rights or undermine national sovereignty over these territories.
- 4) To regain the constant national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return home and to self-determination and to establish their independent national state in Palestine, and not to relinquish the Palestine issue or bargain over it.
- 5) To support the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO--the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.
- 6) To mobilize Arab military, economic, political and cultural resources and use them in the struggle against the main enemy, represented in the Zionist existence, imperialism and colonialism.

7) To consolidate and develop relations with the fraternal and friendly states and the states of the socialist camp, particularly the Soviet Union and the forces supporting the liberation struggle of the Arab nation against Zionism and imperialism.

8) To support the national liberation movements in the African Continent and resist the racist regimes which constitute a natural ally of the Zionist entity.

Article Three: For the sake of achieving its objectives, the front will perform the following tasks:

- 1) Approve political action plans in the Arab and international fields in a manner that leads to the consolidation of the pan-Arab position, serves the basic objectives of its goals and topples the capitulationist policies.
- 2) Approve matters related to war and peace.
- 3) Organize and command the affairs of defense and approve related plans.
- 4) Make decisions related to providing the means of financial, economic and military support for confrontation.
- 5) Approve information policy.
- 6) Assist any side in the event of aggression with various means, including armed force, since any aggression on any member of the front is an aggression against all its members.
- 7) Form the necessary organs and institutions to achieve the goals and to implement the tasks mentioned in this proclamation.

Organizations and Institutions

Article Four: The following organizations and institutions shall be formed:

A. The higher command.

1. A higher command shall be composed of the leaders of the member states.
2. The front's command shall meet once every 6 months in one of the capitals of the member states in turn, the command shall also convene whenever there is need or it is requested to do so by one of its members.
3. The command shall take its decision by majority vote and its decisions will be binding to all members.

B. The political committee.

1. A political committee shall be composed of the foreign minister of the member states.

2. The political committee shall have the following tasks:

- A) To follow up on implementation of the decision of the higher command.
- B) To suggest a plan for political work.
- C) To coordinate political work among the front's member states.
- D) To carry out the tasks entrusted to it by the higher command.

3. The political committee will meet once every 3 months in one of the member states in turn. It can also meet whenever there is need or it is requested to do so by one of its members.

C. The information committee.

1. The information committee shall be composed of the information ministers of the member states.

2. The information committee will have the following tasks:

- A) Suggest the information plans.
- B) Follow up on implementation of the decisions regarding information.
- C) Coordinate matters of information among the member states.

3. The committee will convene periodically once every 6 months in one of the member states in turn. It can also meet whenever there is need or it is requested to do so by one of its members.

D. The military command.

A single military command shall be formed in accordance with a decision by the higher command of the front. The decision shall define the command's powers, jurisdictions, and tasks and the relationships among the armed forces of the various sides of the front.

Joining the Front

Article Five: Any Arab state that abides by the principles and the aims of the front and expresses desire to join the front has the right to be a member in the front.

Issued in Damascus on 21 Shawwal 1398 Hegira, corresponding to 23 September 1978.

Khaddam then read proclamation No 1 issued by the conference. Following is the text of the proclamation:

The heads of state of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization meeting in Damascus from 18 to 21 Shawwal 1498 Hegira, corresponding to 20 to 23 September 1978, after studying the current Arab situation, particularly the results stemming from the signing by the head of the Egyptian regime of the two Camp David agreements and their supplements; and proceeding from the principles they approved in the Tripoli and Algiers summit conferences; and out of commitment to their pan-Arab responsibilities, have taken several resolutions. These resolutions are:

1. To break off political and economic relations with the Egyptian regime, including Egyptian establishments and companies, and to apply the decisions of the Arab boycott of Israel to all individuals dealing with the enemy.
2. To work to transfer the headquarters of the Arab League and its various organizations from Cairo. If this is not achieved, then the sides participating in the Pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation, together with the fraternal Arab states cooperating with them, will perform the tasks of the Arab League in accordance with the Arab League Charter and goals. In this case, the headquarters of the Arab League will be in an Arab country other than Egypt.
3. To support the struggle of the Egyptian people, represented in their nationalist and progressive forces, to cope with the plotting of the Egyptian regime against the fateful Arab issue.
4. To entrust President Hafiz al-Asad with the task of making a tour in the Arab states in order to explain the resolutions of the summit conference of steadfastness and confrontation, to work for gaining maximum Arab political and material support for these resolutions, and to discuss the possibility of convening an Arab summit conference without the participation of the Egyptian regime.
5. To empower President Hafiz al-Asad to contact the Soviet Union in the name of the front to discuss the possibility of developing relations between the Soviet Union and the front, which would lead to giving more military and political support, restoring the balance of military and political power in the area and strengthening and deepening friendship between the Soviet Union and the member states of the front.
6. To send a collective memorandum in the name of the front to the nonaligned group, to the general secretariat of the organization of the Islamic Congress, and to the OAU explaining the front's stand.
7. To invite the UN committee in charge of securing the Palestinian people's constant national rights to hold a special meeting to study the Camp David documents and to determine their contradictions concerning the rights of the Palestinian people, and to ask the committee to issue a statement asserting the committee's objection to everything that harms or belittles these rights.
8. To request the secretary general of the United Nations to have the United Nations refrain from approving any document or agreement which contradicts the UN resolutions on the Palestine issue and the withdrawal from the occupied areas and to notify the Security Council on this matter.

Khaddam Press Conference

JN240140Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 0030 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 23 September--After reading the final statement and the proclamation issued by the conference of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, foreign minister and deputy prime minister, answered the questions of the journalists.

Replying to a question on the subject of the establishment of the unified military command and the subject of transferring the headquarters of the Arab League from Cairo and whether definite dates had been set for these two measures, Khaddam said: The declaration was clear and frank on these resolutions. Action to implement these resolutions began from the time they were adopted.

Question: The conference has decided to strengthen relations with the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc countries. Will there be any change in relations with the United States?

Answer: The final statement issued by the conference has clearly defined the policy of the front member states.

Question: The conference has decided to apply the Arab Boycott laws to Egypt in the same way as they are applied to Israel. Does this mean that henceforth the front member states will sever connections with foreign companies, shipping firms and individuals who are dealing with Egypt, as in the case with Israel?

Answer: Please read the text carefully. The front member states have decided to boycott Egypt economically. This includes Egyptian firms and companies. This means stopping economic dealings with Egypt. Regarding Egyptian individuals, they are Arab citizens who deserve, and are given, every consideration by the front member states. However, if there is a citizen who, by virtue of his work, has dealt with Israel, then the boycott laws will apply to him.

Question: Do we understand that empowering President Hafiz al-Asad to contact Moscow to restore the balance of power in the region means a financial pledge by the front member states to arm Syria and the PLO in their capacity as the two sides facing the Zionist enemy?

Answer: Any pledge made by the front member states cannot be linked to this or that state, because such a pledge will be a pan-Arab pledge and a pan-Arab pledge is not tied to any condition or anything.

Question: It has been noted that the final statement, and even the front's charter, does not make any reference to the formation of a pan-Arab fund to support Syria and the PLO. Was this fact overlooked?

Answer: I have already said that the summit has adopted a number of resolutions. Some of these resolutions were announced and others were not.

Question: The statement said that President Hafiz al-Asad has been empowered to visit the Arab countries and the Soviet Union. Can we know when the president will begin this tour?

Answer: The president will begin his tour very soon, beginning with the Arab countries, and after the necessary arrangements have been made.

Question: Can you give us a clearer idea about Al-Qadhafi's and 'Arafat's visit to Jordan?

Answer: Please address this question either to the Libyan delegation or the Palestinian delegation.

Question: Will there be measures taken with Jordan, for example, because of its geographic location to persuade Jordan to join the front?

Answer: You know that there are special relationships between the two countries based on coordination and integration, despite the present circumstances. Consequently it is natural for our relations with Jordan, or with any other Arab country, to proceed always toward the better.

Question: If Israel commits aggression against Lebanon where the forces of the Palestinian revolution are stationed, will this be regarded as aggression against the front's states, despite the fact that Lebanon is not a member of the front?

Answer: Lebanon is an independent, sovereign state. The PLO is not responsible for Lebanon and does not enjoy any sovereignty in Lebanon. There is a relationship governed by the Cairo agreement. There is an organized presence of the resistance in Lebanon in accordance with the Cairo agreement. This question can be discussed and raised by the Lebanese Government. We will render all forms of support and aid to our Palestinian brethren to enable them to defend themselves and their existence everywhere.

Question: The front is committed to the full liberation of all the Palestinian lands. Does this mean its rejection of Resolution 242?

Answer: The front did not discuss Resolution 242, or Resolution 338, or Resolution 216 or Resolution 213. There is a charter for the front and there are provisions for governing the front. The provisions usually include the principles upon which the policy is based. Any subject which is raised will be discussed according to the prevailing circumstances and in light of the principles agreed upon.

Question: President Carter has made a statement in which he described the PLO as fascist, communist and Nazi and expressed the hope to get rid of it soon.

Answer: President Carter can give any opinion he wants, but this will not change the facts. First, the PLO represents the Palestinian people, it has gained this right through collective Palestinian support for the organization. This was made clear by the strikes and demonstrations which took place in the West Bank and the Gaza sector. This legitimate right was also established by the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences, especially those in Algiers and Rabat. The PLO itself was established in accordance with an Arab summit conference resolution. Moreover, the number of countries in the United Nations which have recognized the PLO is more than double the number of countries which recognize Israel.

Question: Will the front member states adopt a negative stand against any side which supports As-Sadat's policy?

Answer: There is no doubt that there is Arab unanimity against the Egyptian president's policy. There is no doubt that whoever gets involved in supporting As-Sadat will neither be welcomed by the front member states nor the masses of the Arab nation.

Question: I believe that the position of the Moroccan regime is very clear; it is the first to back As-Sadat.

Answer: I have answered this question clearly. Whoever stands on the side of As-Sadat will not be welcomed in the Arab homeland.

Question: Has the conference made any special plans in the event the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon should not be extended?

Answer: The conference has not discussed the question of whether the mandate of the deterrent forces would be extended, but it has adopted the Syrian position, which is clear to all.

Question: The conference has adopted resolutions to boycott the As-Sadat regime economically and politically. Of course, there is a general boycott against Israel. What about the relationship with the third party in Camp David; namely, the United States in this regard?

Answer: The conference took measures against the Egyptian regime because it is an Arab regime which is keeping Egypt outside the arena of national struggle and has stabbed the Arab nation in the back. Therefore, this measure is directed against the Egyptian regime because of its policy. The conference discussed measures against the Egyptian regime, not against any other side.

Al-Asad To Visit Jordan

JN241840Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has described Syrian-Jordanian relations as being based on complete coordination in all fields and said that these relations continue to proceed for the better.

Speaking at a press conference late last night, Khaddam announced that President Hafiz al-Asad will visit a number of Arab and friendly states and that the president will begin his Arab tour by visiting fraternal Jordan very soon to meet with his brother, His Majesty King Husayn to discuss the current Arab situation in particular and the situation in the area in general.

President al-Asad will also acquaint His Majesty King Husayn with the results of the Third Summit Conference of the Tripoli Conference states which met on 20 September in Damascus.

AL-QADHDHAFI, 'ARAFAT VISIT JORDAN, MEET KING HUSAYN

LD221336Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Brother Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, accompanied by brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Jordan at noon today. He was welcomed at Al-Husayn Air Base in Al-Mafraq by King Husayn of Jordan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Jordanian Chief of Staff Lt Gen Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir; Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, director of the royal court; and a number of Jordanian ministers.

Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi and brother Yasir 'Arafat left Damascus at 1050 today for Jordan. The leader of the revolution is accompanied by brother Muhammad az-Zuwayy, information and culture secretary; Jadallah Azzuz 'at-Talhi, industry secretary; and the head of the Libyan Relations Office in Damascus.

At 1230 Jamahiriya time, official talks between brother Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, King Husayn of Jordan and brother Yasir 'Arafat started. On the Libyan side they were attended by Muhammad az-Zuwayy, information and culture secretary; brother Jadallah 'Azzuz 'at-Talhi, industry secretary; and on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Foreign Minister Hasan Ibrahim; and Lt Gen Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, general commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Meeting Concludes

JN221920Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Sep 78 JN

[Text] The talks held by His Majesty King Husayn; Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, leader of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; and Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the PLO, concluded this afternoon at Husayn Air Base. During the talks the conferees discussed the latest developments in the area and the general Arab situation.

After the talks, His Majesty King Husayn answered questions by a number of world press representatives. In answer to a question on the nature of the talks, his majesty said that the talks dealt with the general Arab situation and were constructive.

Asked whether the Jordanian stand has been reassessed, his majesty said that Jordan's stand is firm, straight and clear and it has not changed.

The talks began at noon today. Attending the talks were Prime Minister Mudar Badran, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, and Commander in Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces His Excellency Lt Gen Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir.

Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat returned to Damascus this afternoon via Ar-Ramtha. They arrived earlier today via Ar-Ramtha.

'ARAFAT HEADS PALESTINIAN MEETING AFTER VISIT

JN221942Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 22 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, secretary general of the General People's Congress in the Libyan Jamahiriya, and Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, returned to Damascus at 1815 today from Amman [as heard] after a short visit to Jordan during which they held talks with His Majesty King Husayn on the latest developments in the region and the general Arab situation.

Immediately after his return from Jordan, Mr Yasir 'Arafat chaired a meeting of the Palestinian delegation and the Palestinian leaders taking part in the steadfastness and confrontation summit. The meeting dealt with the latest developments and the visit of 'Arafat and Al-Qadhafi to Jordan and their meeting with King Husayn.

VOP on Palestinian Meeting

JN231540Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1415 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, last evening at the Sheraton Hotel in Damascus chaired a meeting of the Palestinian delegation participating in the steadfastness and confrontation summit. The meeting was attended by brother Hasan an-Naqib, the military adviser of general commander Abu 'Ammar.

The radio correspondent has learned that the conferees dealt with the means to consolidate the struggling role of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation facing the conspiracy of As-Sadat. The conferees also reviewed the outcome of the visit of brother Abu 'Ammar and President al-Qadhdhafi to Jordan and their meeting with King Husayn.

'Arafat Statement on Visit

JN231516Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1040 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Statement by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on his visit to Jordan on 22 September; date and place of statement not given--read by announcer]

[Text] [Passage indistinct] I came here for the sake of the rights and integrity of the Palestinian people. Brother President Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi also came here for the sake of the rights and integrity of the Palestinian people; because As-Sadat has abandoned Palestine and Jerusalem for a handful of Sinai sand. Because of my responsibility as a leader for the Palestinian people I will not spare an effort [words indistinct].

My brothers in the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation do not want Jordan to take any stand that would contradict the Arab commitments made at the Rabat and Algiers summits. They are prepared to support Jordan on the basis of a program of Arab steadfastness established on the principle of insuring the rights of the Palestinian people and the establishment of their independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

President al-Qadhdhafi has spoken at length to King Husayn and offered to insure all of Jordan's financial, military and economic needs if Jordan commits itself to the Arab resolutions and agrees to join the [confrontation] front.

FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH on Visit

JN231536Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1040 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Commentary by political editor of FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH, central organ of the PLO, on the visit of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Jordan on 22 September]

[Text] [Words indistinct] this is not the time to announce King Husayn's news and his answers. However, one must mention that King Husayn told newsmen after the departure of Abu 'Ammar and President al-Qadhdhafi [from Jordan] that Jordan's stand is firm, straight and clear and that it has not changed. The king added that during the meeting the talks concentrated on the Arab situation in general and that the discussions were constructive. Later, an official Jordanian source denied that King Husayn intended to visit Damascus today or tomorrow.

The significance of this statement is quite clear. It is like the king's previous statements on the firmness, straightness and clarity of the Jordanian stand, and his words show vagueness and generality.

It appears that U.S. interpretations of what happened at this meeting made it necessary for another Jordanian official to say that King Husayn did not know that Yasir 'Arafat would accompany President al-Qadhdhafi to Jordan. No doubt, as REUTER said, King Husayn will keep his cards in his hands and he will not join either of the two fronts fighting over the Camp David results.

This Jordanian stand calls to mind King Husayn's stand following As-Sadat's visit to the Knesset up to the time of the peace conference at Camp David.

But facts are needed, and the efforts of brother Abu 'Ammar and President al-Qadhdhafi have stopped the questions which were being raised in the lounges of the Sheraton Hotel, where the front of steadfastness is meeting. Clarity of stands, and particularly that of Jordan, will help the front of steadfastness to set up its position and to establish a fighting front devoted to confrontation with As-Sadat's capitulationist scheme.

This sudden visit was for the purpose of consolidating steadfastness and ending (?silence), guessing and confusion. This visit fully achieved its task and the outcome will become known today or tomorrow when the statement of steadfastness and confrontation is issued at the conclusion of the summit's meetings.

Baghdad VOP on Visit

JN222103Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 22 Sep 78 JN

[Excerpts] President of the Libyan Jamahiriyyah Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi and Chairman of the PLO leadership Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat returned to Damascus this afternoon following their sudden visit to the royal Jordanian regime this morning. Reports said that King Husayn's talks with Al-Qadhdhafi and 'Arafat lasted for 3 hours and dealt with the summit conference which is currently being held in the Syrian capital.

Sources at the Damascus summit today said that 'Arafat's visit to the Jordanian regime took place without his consulting anybody. This caused anger and condemnation among the Palestinian circles taking part in the Damascus summit.

Some of the persons close to 'Arafat, such as Khalid al-Fahum [speaker of the Palestine National Council], said that the Palestinian delegation had not been informed of 'Arafat's visit to Jordan. The spokesman of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine expressed his opposition to the meeting between 'Arafat and King Husayn. He asserted that the PLO leadership was not consulted in this respect.

Dr George Habash [leader of the PFLP] refused to comment on the visit.

It is worth mentioning that 'Arafat's visit and meeting with the Jordanian king is the first since the massacres this regime carried out against our masses and revolution in September 1970 and in the forests of Jerash in 1971.

Kuwaiti Papers on Visit

NC230958Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 23 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 23 September--Quoting sources at the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front conference, the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN today reports in a dispatch from Damascus that the crisis which broke out among Palestinian revolution groups following the visit which PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat paid to Jordan in the company of Libyan Chairman Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi and his meeting with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan was settled last night after intensive efforts by the leaders participating in the conference.

The paper says that the crisis broke out among members of the Palestinian delegation because Yasir 'Arafat had not consulted the leaders of the organizations who are members of the Palestinian delegation to the Damascus conference.

Quoting a Palestinian source in Damascus, the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS today affirms that 'Arafat's visit to Jordan was extremely successful, that it achieved its aims and that today His Majesty King Husayn will disclose the details of his discussions with 'Arafat.

Quoting informed sources in Damascus, the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' today reports that Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi took with him to Jordan a proposal by the steadfastness conference to King Husayn. The proposal provides for restoring the military cooperation between Jordan and the PLO, and consequently for allowing the Palestinian fedayeen to again use Jordanian territory as a starting point for their operations in the occupied territory in return for Libyan financial aid to Jordan. These sources, however, expressed to the paper their belief that the Jordanian king will not accept this.

VOF REPORTS ON 'ARAFAT'S ACTIVITIES 23 SEPTEMBER

JN241212Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1000 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the revolution forces, yesterday held several meetings in Damascus. At 1900 yesterday, leader Abu 'Ammar received at his private suite in the Sheraton Hotel Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, Libyan General People's Congress secretary general. The meeting was attended by the Palestinian delegation to the summit of steadfastness and confrontation. During the meeting a discussion took place centered on recent developments as well as on the agenda of the steadfastness summit. The conferees reviewed the resolutions of the summit.

At 1700 yesterday, brother Abu 'Ammar met with Syrian President Hafez al-Asad. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by brothers Abu Iyad and Abu Mazin, members of the Fatah Central Committee, and on the Syrian side by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Later, Presidents Houari Boumediene of Algeria and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad of the PDY and the members of their delegations joined the meeting. The discussion revolved around the agenda of the summit and the recent developments in the general situation. The meeting lasted for about an hour.

In another development, brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, yesterday chaired a meeting of the Palestinian delegation to the summit of steadfastness and confrontation. The radio correspondent has learned that the meeting dealt with the agenda of the summit of steadfastness and confrontation, especially as relates to the PLO and the Palestine question.

Brother Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee and the Palestinian delegation to the summit, yesterday met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The discussion concentrated on the recent developments and the agenda of the summit of steadfastness and confrontation.

Joint Palestinian Meeting 24 Sep

JN241834Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 24 September--Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, today presided over a joint meeting of the PLO Executive Committee, the Palestinian Command and the Palestinian delegation which participated in the meetings of the Third Pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation which were held in Damascus.

The Palestinian news agency WAPA reported that the meeting dealt with a discussion of the results, resolutions and final statement of the conference.

DAMASCUS CONFERENCE LEADERS RECEIVE ICATU DELEGATION

JN232053Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1945 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 23 September--At 2045 today President Hafiz al-Asad, President Houari Boumediene, leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi and brother Yasir 'Arafat received the delegation of the Central Council of the International Confederation of the Arab Trade Unions [ICATU] under its chairman brother Nasir al-Faraj. Attending the meeting was 'Izz ad-Din Nasir, chairman of the Syrian General Federation of Trade Unions.

The ICATU Central Council submitted to the heads of the third summit conference a memo including the viewpoint of the Arab working class and its trade union movement on the current situation and the imperialist-Zionist plotting to which our nation is exposed.

WAPA EDITOR REPLIES TO CARTER STATEMENT ON PLO

JN241936Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 24 September--The Palestinian news agency WAPA today affirmed that the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, which has attracted honorable and militant strugglers for liberation, freedom and peace in the world, will continue its just and honorable struggle, taking no heed of what President Jimmy Carter says or what is said by his new servile allies, who have squandered the dignity of Egypt at the doors of the White House and the Zionist Knesset.

The agency's political editor pointed out that it was the president of the Egyptian regime, traitor Anwar as-Sadat, who gave the U.S. President the chance to attack the Palestinian people and their sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

The editor refuted the statements of U.S. President Jimmy Carter in which he attacked the PLO and accused it of unpopularity [lasha'biyah] and Nazism and called for silencing it. The editor asked: Who are those who want to silence the PLO? Is it Israel, the usurper, or imperialist America, the exploiter of the wealth of peoples? If these are the ones, we say yes because this wide world, which recognizes and supports the PLO and which has expressed this support from the UN rostrum, wants the PLO to remain the raised gun struggling for liberation and peace in the world.

The political editor of Wafa concluded his comment by stressing that the PLO will continue setting up the closest alliances with the Arab national forces, particularly in Syria, and with all progressive, friendly and honorable forces in the world, foremost of which are the socialist countries headed by the friendly Soviet Union.

The editor also stressed that the Palestinian revolution will triumph and that Carter will pay heavily in his vital interests and in the monopolies and investments with which he sucks the blood of peoples, for his hostility to the Palestinian people and the PLO.

EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH PALESTINIAN COUNCIL WITHOUT PLO REPORTED

NC241145Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 24 September--In a dispatch from Washington, the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS today says that continuous efforts are being exerted with a number of dignitaries from the West Bank and Gaza to form a nucleus of collaborators to begin implementing the Camp David resolutions without the participation of the PLO and to form the first Palestinian administrative council.

The paper adds that the U.S. Embassy in Israel and the enemy's foreign minister, Moshe Dayan, have carried out exploratory contacts with a number of dignitaries in the area to assess their reaction. The paper further says that Israeli security authorities expect pro-PLO Palestinian elements to carry out a wide-scale campaign of threats and assassination attempts against these dignitaries.

In a dispatch from Beirut, AL-QABAS says a Lebanese envoy will visit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to convey a message from Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressing Lebanon's fears about implementation of the Camp David summit results and requesting Saudi Arabia to play a significant role in persuading the United States not to settle the Palestinians in southern Lebanon or any other [Lebanese] area.

KUWAIT

OFFICIAL STAND ON BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL REPORTED

LD211212Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 15 Sep 78 p 3 LD

[Text] The Ministry of Transport--the Customs and the Office of the Boycott of Israel Division--issued a statement yesterday which said:

Certain foreign news agencies and some local newspapers carried reports alleging that Kuwait has eased boycott measures against Israel in order to enable U.S. companies to continue with their business in Kuwait. They also alleged that in accordance with new legislation U.S. companies are no longer required to prove that they have no trade or other relations with Israel. On this occasion we would like to clarify the following facts:

1. Kuwait's attitude toward the Arab Boycott of Israel is well-known and firm, namely total and full adherence to the laws and principles of the boycott and the implementation of all decisions and recommendations issued by the conference of the boycott liaison officers;
2. The question of the U.S. anti-Arab Boycott legislation has been studied at several conferences of the boycott liaison officers and was submitted to the Arab League Council. It was decided to continue to adhere to all the laws and principles of the boycott, as they are valid in the legislation of the Arab countries. All those involved in any commercial activities on Arab territories must respect such laws and the natural and categorical answer must be refusal to deal with foreign establishments that use the pretext of foreign laws;
3. There are no special or exceptional documents relating to U.S. companies. The provisions of the boycott principles and laws must be observed by all foreign companies whether of U.S. or other nationalities;
4. The boycott rules regarding certificates of origin stipulate the need for the importer to submit a certificate from the exporting factory or company and endorsed by the chamber of commerce or industrial federation of the exporting country attesting that the goods are of purely national origin. The certificate must bear the name of the factory or the company and be certified by the Arab legation, if any, in the exporting country. In the circumstances the goods include any material or work from a foreign country other than the producing country, the certificate of origin must include a statement showing the proportion of the material incorporated;
5. In the interest of importers the cabinet has ordered the local banks to ascertain that the producing and exporting firms are not on the blacklist kept in the records of the boycott office before paying any amounts from letters of credit;
6. In the interest of importers and in order to insure the delivery of their goods the cabinet has also decided that shipping documents should include a provision stipulating the shipping of goods on ships allowed to enter Kuwaiti ports. The decision permits obtaining an undertaking to this effect from the owner or the captain of the ship;
7. Kuwait shares efforts with the other Arab countries to resist attempts to weaken the Arab Boycott of Israel and totally rejects any harm to its stand. It reaffirms its total commitment to all the approved principles and regulations of the boycott.

SAUDI ARABIA

U.S. SECRETARY VANCE CONTINUES TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

Attends Banquet

LD221435Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, gave a banquet at noon today in honor of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. The banquet was attended by a number of senior officials. Vance arrived in Riyadh yesterday on a visit to the kingdom within the framework of his current visit to some countries of the region.

Arrives in Dhahran

LD231358Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Mr Cyrus Vance, U.S. Secretary of state, this morning arrived in Dhahran within the framework of his visit to the kingdom. Mr Vance left Riyadh at 0900 this morning for Dhahran. He was seen off at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, and a number of officials. Mr Vance is accompanied by 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry for political affairs, and (?John West), the American ambassador.

Activities Reported

LD231720Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1647 GMT 23 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Mr Cyrus Vance, U.S. secretary of state, returned to Riyadh this evening after touring the eastern region. During the trip he visited the naval base in [name indistinct], the petroleum college and the Aramco Company in Dhahran. Mr Vance was accompanied by 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry for political affairs, and Mr John West, U.S. ambassador to the kingdom. Mr Vance was received at the airport by a number of senior officials.

Departs 24 Sep

LD240805Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0745 GMT 24 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Sep, SNA--Cyrus Vance, U.S. secretary of state, left Riyadh at 0915 today after a 3-day visit to the kingdom. He was seen off at the airport by His Highness Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, minister of education; Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mansuri, foreign undersecretary for political affairs; John West, U.S. Ambassador in the kingdom, and senior officials.

Foreign Ministry Source Comments

LD240956Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0917 GMT 24 Sep 78 LD

["Text" of the statement by responsible source at the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] The kingdom was pleased to receive His Excellency Cyrus Vance, U.S. secretary of state, who was received by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and met His Royal Highness Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister.

Talks between the two sides were dominated by the cordial and open spirit which characterizes relations between the kingdom and the United States.

His Royal Highness Amir Fahd expressed the kingdom's appreciation of the personal efforts of His Excellency Jimmy Carter and those of his administration for the achievement of a comprehensive peace. Mr Vance explained that the results of the Camp David summit represented only a step along this road, which will be followed closely by His Excellency President Carter and the U.S. Government in the future. Both sides reviewed the Camp David results, and the Saudi side raised several questions which were answered by his excellency the U.S. secretary of state. The questions raised included the kingdom's noting the lack of reference in the two Camp David agreements to solution of the issue of holy Jerusalem. Mr Vance explained that this issue was not agreed on at the conference and that the United States would clarify its independent attitude, and the kingdom once again confirmed the need for withdrawal from holy Jerusalem and the return of the city to Arab sovereignty.

The kingdom also raised the need to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, stressing that this is the basic essence for solving the Palestinian problem, without which it is impossible to achieve peace in the region. The kingdom also said it is necessary that the PLO in its capacity as sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people should play its natural role in this field.

The kingdom also explained its attitude which stems from its comprehensive and indivisible view of the Middle East problem and its solutions, which is derived from its belief that lasting peace in the region cannot be achieved unless it is collective in its formulation and comprehensive in its nature, from the kingdom's belief in the pan-Arab nature of the problem and from its eagerness to consolidate and maintain Arab solidarity.

KING KHALID LEAVES FOR MEDICAL TESTS ABROAD

LD231402Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Sep 78 LD

[Text] His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at 1200 today left Riyadh, with the protection and the care of God, for abroad to complete some of the necessary tests which were carried out on his majesty at King Faysal Hospital. His majesty was seen off at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, his majesty's deputy and crown prince, their royal highnesses the princes and the ministers and senior civilian and military officials. May good health and safety accompany his majesty wherever he goes.

MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT ON NATIONAL DAY

LD241326Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Sep 78 LD

[Summary] On the occasion of the kingdom's national day, His Royal Highness and Amir Fahd made the following address:

I thank God for enabling me to stand on such a day every year to remember the efforts made the the late King 'Abd al-Aziz; he worked for noble ends.

"Today we shoulder great renewable responsibilities which call for objective work and careful and responsible moves with an awareness of the dimensions and the role we play internally and externally. Internally, state policy depends, as you all know, on putting all sources at the service of the development targets in all fields and guarantees the citizens' prosperity.

In this field the state spares no effort in serving these objectives, but at the same time we take care to ensure that our spending on development is balanced and sound, and based on sound economic principles to spare our country any economic upheavals, we forbid, and in order to spare our citizens the ghost and dangers of inflation and ensure that the programs and assistance provided by the state achieve their goals in relation to the citizen and serve the objective which we all strive to achieve.

"Therefore the state took care to ensure that its programs and budgets are based on sound economic principles, and we took care to follow closely developments of the domestic economic situation. We were very pleased for the success of the plan aimed at combating inflation to the extent that the citizen can, thank God, get services at reasonable prices to a great extent.

"We took care to vary the source of income and not to rely on oil as the sole source of income. Thus, various programs for the consolidation and encouragement of local industries were laid down, and priority was given to oil industries and other primary industries; at the same time we took care to see that this is accompanied by training to meet the need for skilled manpower in this field. At the same time the state took care to support educational programs of all kinds, thus securing satisfactory growth in this sector, which will be one of the main supports of the development plan at present and in the future. Yet we are not satisfied with what has been achieved and we shall work, God willing, with effort and devotion for the continuation of our economic plan.

"As regards the external field, our responsibilities increase and widen day by day, and we are happy for the honorable attitudes which God had made us adopt in which we shouldered in full our responsibility toward our brothers in Arab and Islamic countries. Despite the oil resources which God granted us we have always taken care to follow the steps of the late His Majesty King 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God have mercy on him, of behaving wisely and with objective realism and comprehending the dimensions of the responsibility resting on our shoulders in relation to the world economy. We always take care to ensure that our attitudes are firm and full of awareness and to behave as a member of an international family. We thank God for the world's appreciation of this behavior and comprehension of the dimensions of the wise Saudi policy which we are pursuing."

Today while we raise the memory of the late King 'Abd al-'Aziz we realize that we should continue to work sincerely and to hold on to our religion. I am proud of our youth. I ask God to guide our nation and protect His Majesty King Khalid.

UAE

MINISTER BRIEFED BY ARAB ENVOYS, U.S. CHARGE

JN241552Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1340 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 September--Within the framework of the Foreign Ministry's moves to follow up developments of the situation in the Arab arena, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi had a meeting this morning with the Libyan ambassador to the UAE, 'Abd al-Qadir Ghawqah; the Syrian ambassador, 'Adnan as-Safi; and the Algerian charge d'affaires to the UAE, Babih Shahhudh.

The Libyan ambassador said that during this meeting discussion focused on the current Arab situation and the circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing. Talks also revolved on the resolutions which were adopted by the summit conference of the states of steadfastness and confrontation, held in Damascus to coordinate Arab stands to face the dangers which are threatening the Arab nation.

Minister of State Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi met also with U.S. Charge d'Affaires Brooks Wrampelmeier. The U.S. charge d'affaires said that during the meeting points of view were exchanged on the developments in the Middle East situation and the results of the Camp David summit. The minister of state for foreign affairs was briefed on the letters exchanged between U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Egyptian President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat on the situation of the Arab city of Jerusalem.

AL-FAJR ON JORDANIAN-PLO-LIBYAN MEETING

JN231349Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0825 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 September--The Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-FAJR has stressed that the meeting between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat which was held yesterday in the presence of Libyan President Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi was necessary for supporting the eastern front in confronting Israel. This step promotes Arab solidarity.

The newspaper AL-FAJR, published here today, explains that this initiative, which came from the leaders of the front of steadfastness currently meeting in Damascus with the aim of restoring relations between Jordan and the Palestinian resistance, is in conformity with the UAE position in support of the necessity of adhering to Arab solidarity.

The newspaper stressed that the two Camp David agreements offer no final just solutions to the crisis because they do not include a clear Israeli commitment to withdraw from all the occupied Arab territories and restore the Palestinian Arab people's rights.

FINANCE MINISTER DEPARTS FOR MEETING IN U.S.

JN231117Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0815 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Summary] Dubayy, 23 September--Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum, UAE minister of finance and industry, left this morning for the United States to head his country's delegation at the meetings of the IMF Board of Governors and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development scheduled to be held in Washington on 25 September 1978.

YEMEN--PDRY

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD SATISFIED WITH DAMASCUS CONFERENCE

LD241955Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Sep 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Politburo member and chairman of the Council of Ministers and the Presidential Council, arrived home this evening from Damascus, where he headed the PDRY delegation to the third conference of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation.

He expressed satisfaction at the results of the conference and its assessment of the situation since the second Algiers summit conference and the grave results of the capitulatory agreements signed by As-Sadat in furtherance of the U.S. imperialist and Zionist plan in the Arab region.

MENA REPORTS AS-SADAT, KING HASSAN BEGIN TALKS IN RABAT

RC221545Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 22 Sep 78 NC

[Excerpts] Rabat, 22 September--The talks between President Anwar as-Sadat and Moroccan King Hassan II began this afternoon. The talks, which are taking place in the royal palace in As-Sukhayrat, 40 miles from the Moroccan capital, are attended by the Egyptian and Moroccan delegations.

The Moroccan delegation includes Prime Minister Ahmed Osman, Minister of State for Cultural Affairs M'hamed Bahnini, Minister of State for Internal Affairs Mohamed Benhima, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Kouatba, and King Hassan's four advisers Ahmed Reda Guedira, Driss Slaoui, Abedlhadi Dabbalebso and Ahmed Bensouda.

The Egyptian delegation includes Deputy Prime Minister for Presidential Affairs Hasan at-Tuhami, presidential office chief Hasan Kamil, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz and Egyptian Ambassador to Morocco Sa'd Murtada.

The talks between the Egyptian and Moroccan sides under President as-Sadat and King Hassan II lasted 90 minutes. During the talks, President as-Sadat presented a complete review of the Camp David conference and a detailed explanation of the two documents issued by the conference and the dimensions of these agreements with regard to the restoration of Arab rights. President as-Sadat also presented a complete view of the Arab action during the coming phase for the restoration of all Arab rights within the framework of the two documents.

King Hassan II and the members of the Moroccan delegation addressed a number of questions on some points contained in the two documents. President as-Sadat answered all the questions and explained in detail all the points queried.

Afterward, the president and the king walked on the palace's balcony, which overlooks the ocean, and continued their talk in private for about 15 minutes. The king and the members of his delegation then accompanied President as-Sadat and the Egyptian delegation to the automobile which then took President as-Sadat back to the Dar as-Salaam Palace, where he is staying.

As-Sadat Holds Press Conference

JN221845Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Sep 78 JN

[President Anwar as-Sadat 22 September live press conference in Rabat, Morocco; As-Sadat's initial statement and answers in English with simultaneous Arabic translation]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: This is a happy occasion to meet with you here in Morocco. This occasion has truly great significance because we are meeting in Rabat after having already taken the very famous Rabat decision here after the October War. It is a very happy occasion to meet with you here. I ask you to convey to your peoples all over the world that now we can say we are on the proper path toward peace.

What I have always said is that the fuse of the bomb in the Middle East may not explode at any moment. We are looking forward to the establishment of peace in the Middle East, the peace which I started with my initiative last November. I am very proud to say that my initiative has been welcomed by your peoples all over the world. I can say now that we are reaping the fruit of the initiative now. We will negotiate everything at the table.

Some of my colleagues in the Arab world say that this is the final solution. This is not correct. At Camp David, we only set the framework for a comprehensive solution. This also included Sinai. All the parties are invited to shoulder their responsibilities and to join the establishment of peace in the next 3 months, which we agreed on at Camp David.

I believe that the most exact interpretation of what we have already achieved at Camp David is the declaration that has been made by President Giscard d'Estaing, that we have paved the way for a peaceful settlement. We have eliminated completely the threat of a war or an explosion. But there is need for very hard negotiations. The intention is to avoid an explosion.

Regarding my talks with King Hassan, let me first express my gratitude for the role of King Hassan, who has always supported the Arab cause. As a matter of fact, he fought for the Arab cause. Allow me to express my deep gratitude. I am happy to meet with you and to give the whole world an interpretation of what took place at Camp David.

I had a very long session with King Hassan and his aides this morning and I have put every detail before him and his aides. I hope in this meeting to answer any points or any issues that were not clear in the Camp David decisions. I am ready to answer. Thank you.

[Question--in English] President as-Sadat, can you tell us whether King Hassan was receptive to the agreements as you described them to him? Did he discuss with you your relationships with other Arab states?

[Answer] It was necessary for King Hassan to obtain basic information from me before giving his opinion. It is up to King Hassan and his cabinet to take whatever decisions they want.

[Question] Mr President, what is your opinion of the Arab reaction to the results of the Camp David summit? Will these results have any effect on Arab aid to Egypt?

[Answer] Am I going to answer in Arabic and then someone translates it? [Voice in background tells As-Sadat to answer in Arabic]

[As-Sadat--in Arabic] What has the brother asked about?

[Question] About Arab reaction to the Camp David summit results and whether the results will have any effect on Arab aid to Egypt.

[Answer--in Arabic] What saddens me indeed is that we in the Arab world still rush matters. For example, a decision by the cabinet of one of the Arab states concerned said that since Egypt has not obtained Sinai [as heard], that state is not supporting what took place at Camp David. What actually happened was that Sinai was never the objective. The objective was a comprehensive settlement. Proof of this is that we signed two agreements. The first agreement is the comprehensive solution; that is, the solution which includes all the Arab sides to this conflict--to be precise, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. In addition, this first document contained the framework for beginning a solution to the Palestinian problem.

This is regrettable, because the Arab reaction was based on an erroneous assumption that at Camp David we reached a final solution. No, this did not happen. Proof of this is what I told you in the opening statement in English here--that the one who clearly understood the Camp David resolutions and their real achievements was President Giscard d'Estaing in the French statement in which he said that these agreements pave the way for the establishment of peace. These agreements are nothing but a framework.

These two agreements come under the title of framework. They are nothing but a framework to open the phase of negotiations and endorsement of the peace treaties afterward. This framework outlines the basic points for the discussion of peace treaties, replacing the lukewarm situation which existed before Camp David.

Regrettably, the Arab reaction was mistaken in thinking that these are final agreements. How can I conclude a final agreement on behalf of Syria, Jordan or Lebanon? Even Sinai, which is the subject of the second document, is not a detailed or final agreement. It is also a framework. The second document concerning Sinai carries the title framework at the top of the page. We are to sit down and achieve the peace treaties within 3 months.

Therefore, the Arab reaction has been based on the incorrect idea that these agreements are final. No, they are not, even with regard to Sinai, on which I could have held final negotiations since I have the responsibility for Sinai, which is Egyptian. No, what came out was a general framework.

For this reason, all the parties--this means Jordan, Syria and Lebanon--are invited--if they approve this framework we agreed upon--to sit down with us to conclude peace treaties within the next 3 months.

Regrettably, the Arab reaction was characterized by hastiness, impatience and lack of study. As I said, the French reaction, or the statement issued by President Giscard d'Estaing, was very clear. The same goes for the statement issued by Chancellor Schmidt in West Germany.

But let me tell you that these agreements were signed in order to be implemented. For this reason, I hope the Arab brothers will study them again in the light of the French statement and the facts I am presenting now so they can adopt the correct stand.

[Question--in English] [Name indistinct] of ABC News.

[Answer] I beg your pardon.

[Question--in English] [Name indistinct] of ABC News.

[Answer] I can't hear.

[Question--in English] (?Doreen Hays) of ABC News. Mr President, could you tell us what you consider your next important urgent step on your return to Cairo in terms of these new accords? What do you consider the most urgent work to be done?

[Answer] Well, when I reach Cairo I shall be sending messages to all the Arab leaders to tell them about the whole aim of what has taken place at Camp David. For sure, I will be telling my people about what took place in Camp David, which I consider a historic turning point in this area and in the Arab-Israeli dispute. We will wait for the Israeli Knesset decision and then make preparations for the meeting with the Israelis on the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

[Question--in English] Mr President, can you say that the part of the framework that concerns the West Bank can be implemented without the participation of King Husayn?

[Answer] What I concluded concerning the West Bank and Gaza can be summed up as follows: The abolition of the Israeli military government; the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the West Bank and Gaza to certain security points which will be agreed upon later during the negotiations; three, the holding of elections to elect Palestinian representatives in the West Bank and Gaza to take responsibility for full autonomy.

I do not know if our friends in the PLO will oppose this. When I visited Jerusalem during my initiative I heard the cries and anxieties of women for their sons, husbands and brothers who are in Israeli prisons. No one has heeded their sufferings for 10 years. No Arab official visited them during these 10 years of sufferings. If anyone is going to oppose this, then I will continue--because I heard their cries and suffering. I want to deliver them from their suffering.

[Question] Mr President, you have always stressed the comprehensive nature of the Middle East issue and you have been able to wrest from Israel a recognition of Resolution 242. We know that Begin's interpretation of this resolution does not include the West Bank and Gaza. Finally, Mr President, what will be the role of the PLO when a solution to the issue is reached?

[Answer--in Arabic] What you are saying is true. Until now, Begin has called the West Bank and the Gaza strip Judaea and Samaria, whereas we say the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Indeed, there is a difference. However, as I have said now and as I have explained, names do not interest me much when I am in the process of ending the suffering of our women and people in Palestine, or in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. I want to end the suffering of occupation through the immediate abolition of the Israeli military government and the beginning of withdrawal to certain points for security only--to be agreed upon between us--as well as by enabling them [Palestinians] to take over their self-rule--what has been called full autonomy, that is, independence. This is totally clear and written in the agreements. They will exercise complete independence and form their own police force and look after their own affairs.

You ask me about the role of the PLO. Israel and Begin continue to have reservations about the PLO because of Israel's security. What concerns me first and foremost is in the next 5 years to end the suffering of our people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Two years from now, Egypt, Jordan--if it agrees to shoulder its responsibility in the West Bank--Israel, and elected Palestinian representatives from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank will sit together to debate what will happen after the end of the 5 years. That is, we will not wait for the end of the 5 years. We will end suffering immediately.

After 2 years, and 3 years before the end of this period, we will sit together in the presence of Palestinian representatives to debate what will happen after the 5 years--before the 3 years are over. Furthermore, in the agreement--at this point I strongly regret that certain Arab brethren hastened to make a judgment before reading or analyzing as Discard d'Estaing did--although they are the owners of the issue--in this agreement, the Palestinians have the right to veto anything which is decided upon in the agreements but is unsatisfactory to them.

The second part of the question about the PLO. I end the suffering. Within 2 years, and 3 years before the end of the period, we will sit together with the representatives of the Palestinians, Egypt, Jordan--if it agrees to shoulder its responsibility--and Israel. Today we end the suffering. After 2 years, everything, including the PLO, is debatable at the negotiating table.

At this juncture I would like to tell you something. At my meeting with Begin, I told him what the written agreements stipulate that when we meet after 2 years, and 3 years before the end of the transition period, both we and Jordan can add Palestinian representatives to our delegations, other than the original Palestinian delegations from the West Bank and Gaza. I spoke to Begin on this point. Naturally, Begin expressed full reservations. However, let us make the Israelis feel secure, particularly following the October War. Unfortunately, the results of the October War and their repercussions on security are not much appreciated in the Arab world.

After 2 years, we will discuss this matter. We have said that everything is debatable at the negotiating table. What concerns me now is ending the suffering of our people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. When we sit down after 2 years, there will be totally different circumstances. Israel will have felt security. Then every problem can be discussed, including the PLO.

As the situation stands, now, I want the Israelis to realize that we want a real peace, not a formal or a temporary peace--a phase after which war or something else would follow. Never. As I said in my opening statement, I frankly said today that we want peace and will actually work for peace. This is not a step-by-step process and there are no other aims behind it.

Disregarding our present position and that of the PLO, some organizations of the PLO today issued statements attacking each other and saying that Yasir 'Arafat does not represent them, and so on. Let us end the sufferings of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and then we will sit down at the negotiating table to decide what we like. As I said, the atmosphere will be completely different from what it is today.

[Question] One of the reasons which prompted many Arab states to reject the Camp David agreement is the fact that the agreement is divorced from the resolutions of the 1974 Rabat conference, especially regarding the role of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the fact that they reject all partial solutions. What is your opinion on this?

[Answer] In my opening statement, I told you that I originally planned to go from the United States to Europe. But I changed my course and came to Rabat because of what you implied, namely, that Rabat is the seat of the resolutions of the Rabat conference. The first secret resolution was the return of the territories occupied in 1967 and to work toward this end by all means. As we recall, the Khartoum conference was the "no" conference--"no" to negotiations, to sitting down together, no conciliation [sulh] or agreement or anything else. In the Rabat conference, the first resolution was secret and it provided for the return of the territory occupied after 1967.

What has happened at Camp David? I invite you to read the plan submitted by Egypt at Camp David. This plan frankly calls for the implementation of the Rabat resolutions regarding the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Jerusalem and the Golan Heights. What happened at Camp David is that we eased the sufferings of the people of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip until we sit down in 2 years in the presence of the Palestinians, who are the ones concerned with this issue, to determine their fate, and with an invitation to King Husayn to assume his responsibilities and sit down with us. This is as far as the West Bank and the Gaza Strip go.

Regarding Jerusalem, I want to state here to the whole world that the Egyptian position and the American position are identical on the question of Jerusalem, as follows: that Arab Jerusalem is a part of the West Bank and therefore what applies to the West Bank and King Husayn applies to it.

This is as far as the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem go. Regarding the Golan, what applies to Sinai applies to the Golan. You will see that Egypt, in the plan it submitted at Camp David, put Sinai and the Golan on the same level because of their similar circumstances. What applies to Sinai will automatically apply to the Golan.

However, I cannot speak on behalf of the Golan. I learned a lesson. I brought the first disengagement to Syria and they accepted it after being insulting and saying what they liked. After that I said: Let them take the responsibility for their action. Nevertheless, I finished the whole difficult part in the Sinai problem, and it will automatically apply to the Golan.

Let us go back to the Rabat resolutions. I talked about the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Jerusalem, the Golan and Sinai. The second resolution of the Rabat conference says that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative. As I have said before, what we have decided with regard to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and what I ask King Husayn to join me in doing now is to sit down so that within 3 months we can remove the sufferings completely and remove the Israeli occupation and the Israeli government from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

As far as the PLO is concerned, as I have said, the purpose of this meeting in which I, King Husayn, Israel and the representatives of the Palestinians will sit after 2 years--this meeting which will take place in the coming 3 months--is to remove the occupation and restore the situation to what it was in 1967 and remove the suffering. The self-determination meeting will not be before 2 years. Therefore, I ask: Does it anger the PLO to see us--King Husayn and myself--remove the sufferings from our kinsmen in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip? Do they have to participate? There is disagreement between them and there is tug of war, or there is alienation. We do not decide the fate. We say: We will remove the suffering, they will govern themselves, the Israeli military government will end and the occupation will end. Well, my hope is that after 2 years the atmosphere will have changed and Israel will have felt the reality of our intentions about security, and that the question is not transitional, but that we want security and peace for them and for us. Indeed, the circumstances will have changed, we will think and we will talk around the negotiating table.

As I have said, and as you have heard me say now: By God, I raised this subject. People from the PLO will be in the Egyptian delegation after 2 years. I told Begin about them--that they will be in the Egyptian delegation. He had reservations. He said: All this is subject to talks around the negotiating table. Therefore, the Rabat resolutions are safeguarded. For this reason I came here, to Rabat, in order to give this explanation. I will not speak after Rabat except to the Egyptian People's Assembly and to the Egyptian people. This is because it is my responsibility to give them the details. But, as I have said, I wanted to come to Rabat, the place of the Rabat conference and the Rabat resolutions, to put every matter in its place.

[Question--in English] After the Camp David agreement, is there a chance for the PLO to participate in the negotiations on the status of the West Bank and Gaza and is Jerusalem included in these negotiations?

[Answer] When King Husayn agrees to participate, we--King Husayn and I--will negotiate on the abolition of the Israeli military government and the withdrawal of the Israeli forces to some specified security points and then we will pave the way for complete self-government. This process will begin after 2 years. Let us wait. When we have completed the process of ending the sufferings [incomplete sentence as heard]

As for the second part of your question, in Camp David, as I have said, we touched on the Jerusalem problem. We explained our position and agreed on the fact that Jerusalem must not be divided again, but, at the same time, there are historical rights for the Moslems and Arabs throughout the world in Arab Jerusalem. At the last moment I asked President Carter what has been written about Jerusalem. As I said, our position and the American position in this regard are identical, that Jerusalem is part of the West Bank. Secondly, any changes that have been made by the Israelis in the status of Arab Jerusalem are illegal. Therefore, we prefer to remove the sufferings of our people there. Two years after that, we will decide on everything regarding the Palestinian representation through negotiations.

[Question] This is 'Abd al-Haqq Abu Bakr, director of the European-African Relations Committee. Mr President, you have achieved, through strong argument for the Arab issue, the Palestinian issue and Jerusalem what the Arab world and the Islamic world can testify to. Do you think, Mr President, that through Egyptian diplomatic and information means you can provide much of this information to your brothers, the heads of the Arab states, to narrow the disagreement? The second question: The rejectionist front says that it may use arms in order to achieve certain legitimate results. Do you think that the rejectionist front can use arms to regain the Arab right, despite its long talk and its lack of action in the struggle?

[Answer] With regard to the first question, what I regret is for the Arab brothers to act hastily before reading, analyzing and studying what took place, as happened in France. They have hastened to issue resolutions. As I told you, I feel the burden. The cabinet in one of the Arab states met under the head of this state and said that since Sinai will not return to Egypt, we reject this agreement. The agreement which took place on Sinai has been announced and is clear. There is nothing unclear about Sinai. Nor will there be anything unclear about the Golan when Syria sits down and discusses the security guarantees for Israel, as we have done.

I wanted this meeting to take place in Rabat so I could present all the facts, because this is an Arab capital which is committed to the Arab issue, and went so far as to fight for the sake of the Arab issue. They have the right to have all the facts presented to them.

As for the rejectionist front and the use of force, we as Arabs must avoid such prattle, because it detracts from our position after what we acquired after the October War. There is no need again for such prattle, slogans and outbiddings.

[Question] Mr President, how do you view the future of the Arab world--after it has become evident to you that a number of governments have been hasty in their judgment--especially after 3 months and the signing of a peace agreement? What will the future of the Arab world be then?

[Answer] It is really regrettable. Nevertheless, I will not attack anyone, and there is absolutely no reason for me to attack anyone. But I want them--just as has happened in Jerusalem--to read these agreements and analyze them before they give their judgment. Just as it happened in Jerusalem, none of them read my speech in the Knesset, and they issued their judgment. Then they came back and said that the speech was splendid, and we have been wrong. The same comedy is now being repeated. But as Arab brothers, we have the right to make mistakes and to question them about the mistakes. Let them read the decisions of Camp David before they issue their judgment.

As for the future of the Arab nation, I would like to tell you that the so-called rejectionist front--who is the rejectionist front?--did not participate in any Arab action or Arab support either before, during or after the October battle.

For example, Iraq, Libya, Algeria and Syria--none of them have participated in any Arab action or Arab support either before, during or after the battle. All of them uttered many slogans. No. I say let us leave slogans aside and end the sufferings of our women in the West Bank [word indistinct] in Jerusalem and return to them their husbands, children and brothers and then let them govern themselves. We will then sit quietly to decide on the fate calmly, away from hollow slogans and away from the methods which ended with the loss of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Golan and Sinai.

Let us leave all this and open a new page based on reality and on scientific cooperation, just as the world is living today. In this, Egypt feels that it has the support of every sane person in the Arab nation. God willing, it will continue with its efforts for the sake of the Arab fate. Egypt will never disavow its historical responsibility for its Arab nation. Thank you. [Applause]

Leaves for Cairo

NC231025Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Sep 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat left Morocco today after a 2-day visit, during which he held discussions with His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco. The discussions dealt with the developments in the Middle East in the light of the results of the Camp David summit conference. The discussions also dealt with the current situation in the Arab area and African issues of common interest to both countries. They further touched on strengthening relations between the two countries and the coordination of their positions.

During his visit, President as-Sadat held a press conference which was attended by representatives of the world news agencies, radio and television stations. The president discussed the results of the Camp David conference.

On leaving Morocco, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat was seen off by His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco, the Moroccan prime minister and ministers and senior state officials. The president was also seen off by members of the diplomatic corps, the Egyptian ambassador and members of the Egyptian Embassy and Egyptian community in Morocco. President as-Sadat was accorded an official farewell.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT ARRIVES IN CAIRO 23 SEPTEMBER

NC231546 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1428 GMT on 23 September begins a live relay of President Anwar as-Sadat's arrival at Cairo airport. The announcer says that people from all over Egypt have come to Cairo to welcome the "hero of peace" after his trip to Camp David.

President as-Sadat's plane touches down at 1433 GMT. President as-Sadat alights from the plane at 1435 GMT and is met by Vice President Husni Mubarak, People's Assembly Speaker Sayyid Mar'i, Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, senior statesmen, the ministers, religious leaders and members of the People's Assembly. Egyptian Air Force planes are heard flying past several times in salute of President as-Sadat.

President as-Sadat then gets into an open car. Another announcer outside the airport takes the microphone to describe the passage of President as-Sadat's motorcade through the streets of Cairo. He says that As-Sadat has left the airport and is being cheered by the people thronging the streets. Another announcer in a Cairo radio car accompanying the president's car then takes over the microphone. He says that the people are rejoicing, playing musical instruments, singing and applauding to welcome As-Sadat, who has come back with "an olive branch," bringing peace.

People in Al-'Urubah Street are heard shouting As-Sadat's name and applauding. President as-Sadat's car proceeds to Roxy Square, where another announcer takes the microphone. He says that with all sincerity the people of Egypt, the people of peace, who have erected triumphal arches along the route, throng the streets to welcome President as-Sadat. Another announcer in Al-Khalifah al-Ma'mun Street says that Egypt came out today to welcome "the leader and hero who achieved victory for his Arab nation in 13 days of talks," and who "waged the battle of peace and triumph," who "achieved comprehensive peace for the Middle East." The motorcade then goes through Al-'Abbasiyah Tunnel to Al-'Abbasiyah Square, where flags are flying and the balconies are packed with people to cheer the president. The announcer says that everybody is carrying pictures of As-Sadat and olive branches. The motorcade passes through Ramsis Street. The announcer says that he can see doves flying around the triumphal arches and people sitting in the trees. He says church bells are heard ringing. The motorcade then proceeds to Bab al-Hadid Square, where the crowds greet and cheer As-Sadat, "who has spared no effort to achieve peace." The announcer says that the people, who supported As-Sadat during the canal crossing, now support his peace march.

President as-Sadat arrives at his home in Al-Jizah in an open car, accompanied by Vice President Husni Mubarak, at 1544 GMT.

CAIRO RADIO CITES AS-SADAT LETTERS TO PRESIDENT CARTER

NC222241Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 22 Sep 78 NC

[Text] The White House today released the text of the attendant letters appended to the Camp David documents agreed to last Sunday among Presidents Anwar as-Sadat and Jimmy Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Of a total of 10 letters exchanged among the three leaders, the texts of nine letters have been released. The 10th letter, related to Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank, has not yet been released.

In his letter of 17 September to President Carter, President as-Sadat said: In connection with the framework for a settlement in Sinai, I would like to reaffirm the position of the Arab Republic of Egypt with respect to the settlements:

1. All Israeli settlers must be withdrawn from Sinai according to a timetable within the period specified for the implementation of the peace treaty.
2. Agreement by the Israeli Government and its constitutional institutions to this basic principle is therefore a prerequisite to starting peace negotiations for signing a peace treaty. If Israel fails to meet this commitment, the framework shall be void and invalid.

In the second letter, related to Jerusalem, President as-Sadat reaffirmed the following points to President Carter:

1. Arab Jerusalem is an integral part of the West Bank. The restoration of the legitimate and historical rights in this city must be respected.
2. Arab Jerusalem should be under Arab sovereignty.
3. The Palestinian inhabitants of Arab Jerusalem have the right to exercise their legitimate national rights on the grounds of their being part of the Palestinian people in the West Bank.

4. Relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly Resolutions 242 and 267, must be applied with regard to the city of Jerusalem. All the measures taken by Israel to alter the status of the city are considered null and illegal and must be rescinded.

5. All peoples must have the right to safe access to the city and to perform their religious rites. Their right to visit and move to the holy places without discrimination or distinction must be insured.

6. The holy places of each faith may be placed under the administration and control of the representatives of the three faiths.

7. Essential functions in the city should not be divided and a joint municipal council composed of an equal number of Arab and Israeli members can supervise the carrying out of these functions. In this way, the city will not be divided.

The third letter addressed by As-Sadat to President Carter dealt with peace in the Middle East. It said: In connection with the framework for peace in the Middle East, I am writing this letter to you to inform you of the position of the Arab Republic of Egypt with regard to the implementation of the comprehensive settlement.

To insure the implementation of the provisions and articles related to the West Bank and Gaza Strip and in order to safeguard the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, Egypt will be prepared to assume responsibility of the Arab role stipulated in these articles, following consultations with Jordan and the representatives of the Palestinian people.

President Carter replied to these three letters and communicated their contents in letters he sent to Israeli Prime Minister Menham Begin. In his letter to President as-Sadat on the question of settlements, President Carter said:

I understand from your letter that the Knesset approval on the withdrawal of all the inhabitants of the settlements in Sinai, according to a timetable within the period specified for the implementation of the peace treaty, is a prerequisite to holding any negotiations on a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

AS-SADAT GRANTS INTERVIEW TO ISRAELI MEDIA

NC222200Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Rabat, 22 September--President Anwar as-Sadat has announced that in the next few days we will begin to prepare the necessary papers for the forthcoming negotiations on the signing of a peace treaty. They are related to the political and military issues to be covered by the coming negotiations. These negotiations will begin after the Knesset meets and adopts a decision. The President added: Even before the Knesset meets we will be in contact with the Israeli side to name a venue for the negotiations on the signing of a peace treaty. Directly after the Knesset's decision we will sit down and conclude a peace treaty.

The president said this in an interview with the Israeli newspaper MA'ARIV and the representative of Israeli radio.

The president expressed hope that King Husayn will agree to shoulder his commitments and join the process of establishing peace. He added: If King Husayn does not participate, then I will resume the negotiations on the West Bank and Gaza and these negotiations will proceed in parallel with the negotiations on Sinai.

The president also said: Begin and I pledged before Congress that the peace treaty will be concluded in less than 3 months after the Knesset's decision, that is, less than the period specified in the framework for peace.

Answering a question on public opinion in Israel and Egypt, the president said that the Camp David meeting was a very important step which has defused the bomb that was about to explode. Now there is a very suitable atmosphere for peace.

The president added: I promise that there will not be another war and that the Israeli people will have the security they want.

Asked about his expectations regarding the rejectionist states and about the negative reaction of certain Arab states, he said: Let me say that what is happening now is natural and I have gotten used to it. They did the same thing when I signed the first and second disengagement agreements and when I reopened the canal to international navigation, and when I went to Jerusalem [words indistinct]. You know that these states asked me to cut off contacts with Israel immediately before Camp David. They urged me to sever every contact with you. So I am really used to these things. None of this will change the truth at all.

The president was asked if the mentality has changed in general. He replied: Since my visit to Jerusalem everything is absolutely changed. The (?problem) was with you and your government and it also had to do with the mood and certain trends on your side, but I always believed that public opinion in Israel, especially after my initiative and my visit to Jerusalem, definitely wanted peace. This applies in particular to the women, who, like our women in Egypt, are aspiring to peace. Certainly there has been a big change toward mutual understanding, particularly regarding peace and its timing. We must not lose the opportunity.

The president added: Last March or April I was visited by a delegation of the Jewish community in the United States. At that time the misunderstanding between us and the Israeli Government was at its height. I told the delegation that we have begun the march and I asked them to tell Mr Begin that I would go to Mount (?Sinai) and pray.

Then some contacts were held regarding a meeting. I suggested Al-'Arish as a place for such a meeting. He suggested that the meeting be held at one of the airports. I said no, Al-'Arish must first be evacuated and I have no objection to holding the next meeting in Ismailia or Be'er Sheva'.

The president was asked about the U.S. role in the coming phase. He replied: I have asked President Carter to participate with us in making the arrangements for our future meetings. On our part we have nothing to fear. Everything changed 100 percent after my visit to Jerusalem. Unfortunately, there are still some old signs and ideas harbored by some on your side. In this connection we want the Americans to be with us so that we may build the minimum degree of confidence necessary. I stress that on our part there is (?no) mistrust.

The president was asked: You said at your press conference that some members of the PLO will participate in the talks on the West Bank, which will begin after 2 years, as part of the Egyptian and Jordanian delegations.

He answered: I want to explain this point because I do not want any misunderstanding to arise about it. When we drew up the first document on a framework for a (?comprehensive) settlement we said Palestinians not from the West Bank may join in. I asked Mr Begin: What do you think about such a delegation? Begin said: Wait until we discuss this matter between us, so I said I agree, because I want the Israelis to feel trust and good neighborly relations.

I am by nature an imaginative man. At the height of our disagreement with your government I said I challenge Begin, and I will go and pray on Mount Sinai.

The president then asked: Why are the Israeli people so very suspicious?

He was asked: Did you ask Begin when you met him why the Israelis are so suspicious?

The president answered: I discussed this at length with my friend 'Ezer Weizman and I have accepted the explanations and clarifications he gave me. The president refused to say what these clarifications were.

AT-TUAMI, MOROCCAN OFFICIALS TO MEET SAUDI KING IN GENEVA

NC230715Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 23 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 23 September--The newspaper AL-AHRAM today reports that Hasan at-Tuhami, deputy prime minister for presidential affairs, will fly to Geneva today accompanied by the political adviser of King Hassan II of Morocco to meet King Khalid of Saudi Arabia. The two men will brief King Khalid on the results of the Camp David talks. They will also explain the results of Egypt's efforts concerning subjects of utmost importance of common interest, such as the question of Jerusalem, because Egypt has emphasized its adherence to the inalienable Arab rights to the holy city.

The two envoys will also inform King Khalid, who will visit Geneva for medical treatment, of the steps which will follow the Camp David agreement. These steps include ending the military government in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, holding Palestinian elections, and forming a self-rule [hukm dhati] government during the transitional period.

The decision on the trip by Hasan at-Tuhami and King Hassan's adviser was made during the second session of talks held yesterday between President as-Sadat and King Hassan II.

AL-AHRAM PUBLISHES AT-TUAMI STATEMENT ON EGYPTIAN WORLD ROLE

NC250855Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 25 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 September--Deputy Prime Minister for Presidential Affairs Hasan at-Tuhami has affirmed that Egypt was and still is anxious to see that the issue of Jerusalem remains above any bargaining and that it continues to head the list of the requirements for a comprehensive settlement of the cause of peace in the Middle East.

In a statement published in the newspaper AL-AHRAM today, At-Tuhami explained that Egypt could have cut the threads of understanding and negotiation at Camp David and left. However, Egypt's historic position and its overall view of the future were among the necessities for reaffirming its role in the world.

The deputy prime minister for presidential affairs noted that, following President as-Sadat's initiative in visiting Jerusalem, most of the free world states had hoped that Egypt would continue to pursue this course to preserve its rights and the rights of the Arabs and to safeguard the march of history, peace and economy.

At-Tuhami said that Egypt will continue to play its historic and leading role, and not only in the Middle East.

This will also apply to its long-range strategic role in its relations with all the states of the free world after the differences over the Middle East problem are settled and also after a just and permanent solution is reached. Such a solution must be based on the restoration of rights and lands through agreements, treaties and world guarantees, be they U.S. or international guarantees or Security Council and UN guarantees. This solution has become a necessity now that the recourse to war and destruction has been excluded and the whole world insists on a peaceful solution.

At-Tuhami added that the friendly states in every corner of the world will look forward to this Egyptian role. The world will realize the soundness of the solution, the framework of which was laid down in the Camp David agreement. This solution will have a great and direct impact in the political, economic and strategic fields throughout the whole world.

AL-AHRAM ON AS-SADAT WELCOME, REJECTIONIST FRONT

NC240840Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the great reunion between the leader and the people, the newspaper AL-AHRAM says: Just as the results of the mission were stunning, the reception accorded President Anwar as-Sadat was stunning to the millions who followed it on television and radio. Just as President as-Sadat took the responsibility to represent the Arab nation in paving the way for the return of just and lasting peace to the cradle of civilizations and religions, the Egyptian people expressed the decision of the Arab peoples in supporting the achievements of As-Sadat's initiatives since he decided with wisdom, courage and tenacity to resolve the multifaceted crisis.

The paper points out that the people said yes to Egypt's Arab role. The people are part of the Arab nation. They assumed their role even before the theory of Arab nationalism took effect. It was their fate for the burden of the invasions of the Arab territory to fall on their shoulders.

In expressing themselves, the people asserted Egypt's legal and moral commitment to the people of Palestine and their support for Egypt's pledge to join with Jordan and the representatives of the Palestinian people in implementing the contents of the framework of peace, particularly with regard to the West Bank and Gaza, in order to protect the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The paper points out that the people said yes to the Arabism of Jerusalem, the protection of the sacred places of humanity, and to allowing all peoples to worship freely and visit the holy places without discrimination. They also said yes to the restoration of the occupied Arab territories, including the Golan, the West Bank, Jerusalem, Gaza and Sinai.

The people's word amounted to a call on the Arab parties concerned to assume their role, supported by all the Arab capabilities, in working for the retrieval of all Arab rights.

Concluding its commentary, AL-AHRAM affirms that the people's word yesterday was tantamount to a prayer to God to grant the Arab nation and its leaders wisdom and courage as they steer the ship through stormy seas toward the shores of peace. The battle for peace is no less important than the battles of war.

In an article in AL-AHRAM, Makram Muhammad Ahmad examines the background of the rejectionist forces and the hollow noise they have been making in the wake of every new stage in the peace process.

The writer points out that the basic problem is that our new Arab world has not yet risen from the debris of backwardness with all its severe and terrifying contradictions. A start should have been made. It was natural that the start should be in Egypt. It is the only country capable of moving its Arab world to the horizons of a new era--to another era more rational, understanding and respectful of the Arab human rights which were violated everywhere; to another era in which we as Arabs can realize that the Arab-Israeli conflict, which has not ended yet, is to a large degree a cultural conflict which cannot be won in the shadows of the Damascus detention camps or the An-Nihaya palaces in Baghdad. This conflict cannot be won under the shadow of the one-opinion regimes and corruption among brothers and comrades. This conflict cannot be ultimately won while we are wasting our resources and draining our capabilities, just as we have wasted our great revolutions in the past, for limited purposes.

The writer comments on the claims of the rejectionists by posing a series of questions. He asks: Should Sinai remain under detention until the Iraqis complete their secret and cheap war against the cadres of the PLO in the capitals of the whole world? Should Sinai remain under detention until the Syrians realize that their ambitions in Lebanon will reach a dead end or that they will be crippled for a long time in the unjustified swamp of violence which is now spreading to include all of Lebanon, north and south? Should Sinai remain under detention until the hostile Ba'th comrades in Iraq and Syria come to their senses?

With regard to the settlement of the Palestinian problem, the writer points out that perhaps the comprehensive settlement framework--Document No 1--was not as specific as we all wanted it to be. But who is responsible? One man was courageously fighting the battle of peace. What would have happened if the Arab mind had come to its senses? What would have happened if we had come to grips with the realities of the age? What would have happened if the rejectionists had attacked the initiative calmly and patiently? What would have happened if we had overcome impotence and lack of choice and stormed the doors which are open now, especially since the Camp David agreement is just a framework and not a final agreement?

In his article in AL-AHRAM, Makram Muhammad Ahmad stresses that in such case we would achieve new gains, and would not let Begin sing to the world morning and evening, as he is doing now, that we as Israelis are advocates of peace, but the problem lies with the Arabs.

Concluding his article, the writer says that before filling the whole world with their hollow statements the representatives of the rejectionist forces must understand a basic fact--that Sinai, which, in discussing its return through the Camp David agreement, they said is just a handful of sand--is in fact the holy of holies of Egypt. Its sands, which are irrigated by the blood of tens of thousands of Egyptians, make it dear to the Egyptian people, exactly like the soil of Palestine.

GHALI BEGINS CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN AMBASSADORS

NC250737Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 25 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali this afternoon will meet with the ambassadors of the African states in Cairo to explain to them what was achieved at the Camp David conference and the dimensions of the new situation in the Middle East in the light of the two agreements signed at the conference. These agreements define the framework of the comprehensive and just solution for the establishment of permanent peace in the Middle East.

Dr Butrus Ghali will meet tomorrow for the same purpose with the ambassadors of the Arab states in Cairo. On the same day, he will meet with the ambassadors of the European states.

Dr Butrus Ghali yesterday began his meetings with senior Foreign Ministry officials to prepare for the post-Camp David conference period and to draw up a plan for Egyptian diplomatic activity in the next important stage.

BAGHDAD: AL-AHRAM SAYS NEW GOVERNMENT PLANNED

JN211310Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Sep 78 JN

[Excerpt] The Egyptian newspaper AL-AHRAM said today that Egypt's ruler Anwar as-Sadat will announce the formation of a new government in the second half of October to replace the present government headed by Mamduh Salim, leader of the Arab Socialist Union.

The paper added that the new government will be headed by As-Sadat himself and will include members of his new party, which he has called the National Democratic Party.

The paper explained that elections will take place in the new party to determine its leaders and then the government will be formed.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO MEET UNDER AS-SADAT

NC241635Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] The radio reporter has learned that the general conference of the National Democratic Party is expected to convene under President Anwar as-Sadat in the middle of next week. The conference agenda includes the election of the party leader and his deputy and the party's organizational bodies and its 25 committees. These committees will be specialized in the various fields related to political, economic, social and popular matters so that they may prepare the studies on the issues to be adopted by the party. That will mark the start of intensive political and party activities in accordance with the party's program.

Party Secretary General Fikri Makram 'Ubayd has stated that the party's activities during the coming phase will be devoted to dealing with the basic problems of the masses, particularly food security, housing and communications.

He said that on behalf of the party's founders, he will this week submit to the ASU Central Committee's parties committee all the papers and documents pertaining to the party, including the party's program, table of organization and statutes.

AMMAN AR-RA'Y: KAMIL PLACED UNDER HOUSE ARREST

JN240914Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Sep 78 p 1 JN

[Text] Cairo--Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, the outgoing Egyptian foreign minister, has been placed under house arrest. Kamil tendered his resignation at Camp David in protest against the As-Sadat-Begin agreement.

KING HUSAYN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE 23 SEPTEMBER

JN231954Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has emphasized that we are for a just and comprehensive peace which is based on full withdrawal to the 1967 lines and restoration of Arab sovereignty to Arab Jerusalem.

His Majesty King Husayn held a press conference this afternoon at the Hashemite Royal Court. In the press conference, he answered questions put by Arab and foreign journalists and correspondents of news agencies and radios.

His Majesty King Husayn said: We will not bargain over Palestinian lands or Arab rights. Jordan represents the last shield protecting the Arab homeland from danger.

His majesty began the press conference by reading a statement saying: Jordan was not a party to the meetings and agreements concluded at Camp David. Therefore, although Jordan is not committed to these agreements, Jordan has studied them seriously and with an open mind. Meanwhile, Jordan remains committed to the principles it has frequently affirmed.

His Majesty said: We assess the Camp David agreements in accordance with the following principles:

1. Will these agreements provide a framework for the liberation of the inhabitants of the occupied areas and the ending of the Israeli occupation?
2. Will these agreements guarantee the right of self-determination to the Palestinian people, as well as a comprehensive peaceful settlement on all fronts, not a partial settlement or a separate agreement?

His majesty said: We have received U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and asked him specific questions on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the rest of the occupied areas at the end of the proposed 5 years. We have also put forth questions about the future of occupied Arab Jerusalem, which has a special status for us and which we will not relinquish. We have also asked questions about the principle of the application of the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people as well as the issue of the Palestinian refugees and the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab areas. We have also put to him several other questions related to the various aspects of the comprehensive settlement.

King Husayn said: Jordan will not close any door which might lead to ending the occupation and rescuing our people from their chains. Nevertheless, we will not sacrifice our pan-Arab rights and principles and our dignity and honor. We are for a just peace and a comprehensive, peaceful settlement.

We appreciate the personal efforts of President Carter. We will continue the dialog with the U.S. Government to find a common ground for cooperation in the peaceful efforts. However, we will not act rashly in making decisions or following paths which might not secure our national interests or commitments vis-a-vis the constructive Arab aspirations.

Asked whether Jordan is being subjected to pressure by the United States, his majesty the king said: The experience of pressure is not new to us. Our history is one of steadfastness against pressure. Anyway, there was no pressure on us. Everyone knows that the pressure which affects us emanates from our conscience and feeling of responsibility.

His Majesty King Husayn said: U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance came to discuss matters with us. We put to him detailed questions and the dialog between us is continuing.

Asked about the visit of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and Yasir 'Arafat to Jordan, King Husayn said: Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi contacted me. I welcomed his visit. Our talks with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and 'Arafat were frank and fraternal. I was very moved by the sincerity of the motives behind the visit. After many years of misunderstanding, the Arabs realize that our policy is constant and correct and that it is in the service of Arab goals and the Palestine cause. Our position was understood and there was emphasis on serving the Arab cause.

Asked about his stand on the results of the Camp David summit, His Majesty King Husayn said: We were astonished by the reference to Jordan in several places and the commitments made for Jordan. We do not consider ourselves committed to the documents of the conference. We are not belittling the efforts of President Carter. However, we have many questions on the results of the conference. We have asked Secretary Vance these questions. We will study the answers and the situation in light of these answers. We are for a just and comprehensive peace which is based on full [Israeli] withdrawal to the 1967 lines as well as the restoration of Arab sovereignty to Arab Jerusalem and the exercise by the Palestinians of their right to self-determination. This is our understanding of Resolution 242, and this is why we accepted it.

Asked about the path which his majesty sees to achieve Arab demands, his majesty said: We are now awaiting answers and information in order to study the situation. Afterwards, we will discuss the situation with our Arab brethren to discuss the best means to serve our goals and those of a just peace. The road to Geneva, for example, is not closed. There are numerous other paths which we can discuss.

Asked whether he had received an invitation to visit the United States, His Majesty King Husayn said: I have received an invitation from President Carter and accepted it thankfully. However, we have not yet fixed the date of the visit.

Asked whether Jordan wants U.S. guarantees before participating in the talks, His Majesty King Husayn said: We are concerned about knowing the stands of the United States. We are at present engaged in a dialog with the United States.

Asked whether Jordan's stand will lead to the collapse of the peace efforts in view of its refusal to participate in these peace efforts, His Majesty King Husayn said: For many years we have been saying that the most important thing about the peace process is to know the end of the road. For many years we and Egypt accepted Security Council Resolution 242. We are now suddenly faced with a situation in which our name is involved and we are asked to carry out commitments upon which we did not decide. Therefore, the question which still concerns us is: What is the end of the road?

Will the peace process lead to a full Israeli withdrawal and the restoration of Arab sovereignty over Jerusalem, as well as the exercise of the right of self-determination for the Palestinians? If this is so, we will look into the matter seriously. We will not bargain over the Palestinian lands or Arab rights.

Asked whether he will let President as-Sadat negotiate alone on the various aspects of the issue, His Majesty King Husayn said: No one has the right to say that he is more linked with Palestine and Palestinian rights than we are. However, President as-Sadat is entitled to express his own views. We are also entitled to express our views. I do not know what President as-Sadat will do. However, Egypt has a moral commitment toward the Arabs. Jordan lost the war in 1967 and our lands fell under occupation because we did not hesitate to side with Egypt. Furthermore, Egypt has always declared its commitment to a comprehensive settlement. We will study the matter and cooperate with our Arab brothers. We are aware of our responsibilities toward our brothers in the occupied areas. We are also aware of the principles governing our stands. Any solution which does not take these bases and principles into consideration cannot succeed or be accepted by the coming generations.

Asked about the impact of any unilateral solution on the area, His Majesty King Husayn said: The impact of such a solution is very serious. However, I do not intend to elaborate on this subject.

His majesty added: Since I became a mature man, I have believed in the idea of the Arab nation united in facing challenges, dangers and problems, building together and standing united under all circumstances. Anyway, Egypt has not yet signed a separate treaty with Israel.

Asked about the warnings of his majesty some time ago about the threat which Israel poses to Jordan, His Majesty King Husayn said: The situation has not changed now from what it was. The danger of the Israeli aggression still exists for Jordan and for the entire Arab homeland. This country represents the last shield protecting the Arab homeland from dangers. We are determined to defend this land and for its sake to sacrifice the most cherished thing we have. We will do all we can and use all our resources to defend our lands through the building of our intrinsic power with the resources available to us.

Asked about the nature of Jordan's relationship with the PLO, King Husayn said: We here in Jordan have the strongest links with the Palestinian people. We always do our best to serve their cause. Between us and the PLO there are fraternal relations, governed by the desire to overcome the mistakes of the past and to serve the Palestinian cause and people.

CABINET DISCUSSES CAMP DAVID, VANCE'S VISIT

JN241520Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 24 September--The Cabinet devoted its ordinary session today under Prime Minister Mudar Badran to a discussion of the results of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's visit to Jordan on Wednesday. The Cabinet also discussed the visit made to Jordan on Friday by Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, Chairman of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, and Yasir 'Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

The Prime Minister briefed the ministers on the discussions held during these two visits and explained the Jordanian side's stand on the topics discussed.

The ministers then held a detailed discussion which dealt with several aspects of the developments in the Middle East crisis within the framework of the results of the Camp David conference.

KING ANALYZES CURRENT SITUATION WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS

JN241942Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn met in the Royal Hashemite Court today with a number of Senate members, including former prime ministers; the Speaker of the National Consultative Council; the chairman and members of the Foreign Relations Committee; and committee chairmen in the council.

During the meeting, his majesty reviewed the current situation. He thoroughly analyzed the situation in the Arab area and outlined the responsibilities of the Arab nation at this stage. His majesty exchanged viewpoints with the Senate members and members of the National Consultative Council regarding the current situation.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, and his highness the chief chamberlain.

KING HUSAYN TO VISIT ARAB CAPITALS SOON

JN242035Y Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2000 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran stated today that his majesty the king will make a tour of the Arab states in the coming few days to hold talks with Arab leaders on the outcome of the Camp David summit meeting. He said that the king will also dispatch a number of envoys to Arab capitals with royal messages explaining Jordan's stance toward the Camp David meeting and Jordan's views regarding the next stage in the light of the Camp David results. The king will also be outlining Jordan's position to a number of world leaders with regard to a comprehensive peace settlement.

APP: JORDAN ASKS W. BANKERS TO REJECT ISRAELI OVERTURES

TA231957Y Paris AFP in English 1945 GMT 23 Sep 78 TA

[Excerpt] Jerusalem, Sep 23 (AFP)--The Jordanian Government has asked supporters of King Husayn living on the West Bank to refuse to cooperate with the Israeli authorities in their attempt to set up a framework for the administrative autonomy of the territory, informed sources said today.

King Husayn has also invited West Bank personalities to Amman to discuss the matter following the Camp David accords. Leading personalities of Janin and Ramallah have already left for the Jordanian capital, the sources said.

PRESIDENT ILYAS SARKIS ADDRESSES NATION

NC222010Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Sep 78 NC

[Text of 22 September address by Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis to the Lebanese people on the occasion of the beginning of his third year in office--recorded]

[Excerpts] O Lebanese: The occasion of 23 September is not the only reason why I have decided to speak to you, but it is my growing feeling that I must address you and contact you directly. After matters have become tense again, it is your right to ask me to tell you the facts frankly. I am sure that by putting you in possession of these facts, you will be able to assess matters soundly.

I have remained silent so far out of regard for certain conditions in which silence has been more eloquent and useful. I have accepted the irresponsible campaigns to which I have been subjected while trying to reconcile the various tendencies in order to preserve the unity of the homeland and state.

I must say frankly that the regime has not found the desired understanding for its clear stand and has not received the necessary assistance to continue the march of peace, restore the prestige of the state and reimpose its control. This has been a main reason for the current tension, for the delay in rebuilding the Lebanese Army and for the continuation and exacerbation of the state of chaos in the country.

Compatriots, the state, your state, is weak, very weak. No one knows that and feels it more than I. However, who can strengthen it, except its people? Those who are renouncing the state, who are attacking it and who persist in weakening it--what do they think they are doing? Do they not realize that they are killing Lebanon and themselves as well?

You need legality but legality needs you more. So why do you not stand shoulder-to-shoulder with legality, thus reducing the burden, and we will move forward? Do you not realize how much I need you in order to save Lebanon?

Lebanon's strength is based on three mainstays--its domestic unity, its relations with the Arab world and international friendships. More than anything else, Lebanon's strength is in being a single state for one people on one land. Lebanon's strength is to have one capital, not two capitals separated by a closed gate. Lebanon's strength is to have a unified Beirut, not an eastern Beirut and a western Beirut. Lebanon's strength is to have an army from all the homeland and for all the homeland--an army that will leave no excuse or pretext for any side to carry illegal arms and that will be able to relieve the Arab and international forces from the burdens of maintaining security and peace in our land.

Lebanon's strength is in the democratic parliamentary regime which it has accepted and the free economic system which developed into a modern state based on extensive decentralization in the spheres of administration and development.

Lebanon's strength is in its fraternal relations with the Arab states, beginning with the state most adjacent to it territorially, most close to it in terms of blood relationship and history and having the most common interests with it. I am talking about Syria. An era of true understanding and sincere cooperation must remain between Syria and Lebanon in all spheres of mutual benefit, now and in the future.

In stressing our duty toward the Arab world, I believe that the Arab brothers must also reciprocate by showing the Lebanese people the respect, care and attention they deserve. In the course of this evaluation, I must affirm the distinction in our view and stand between the negative aspects reflected by the Palestinian armed presence in our land and our total commitment to the just cause of the Palestinian people and their right to return to their homeland and to self-determination.

In the light of recent international developments, I am bound by duty to reaffirm our total and firm rejection of any settlement that is based on the settlement of the Palestinians in Lebanon and that does not guarantee a just and permanent peace.

O Lebanese: The solution of the Lebanese crisis can only be a political one. A remedy through security measures is only a temporary measure which would lead us to the political solution which is based on understanding among the Lebanese, cooperation with the brothers and openness toward our friends. On this basis, the entry of the Arab forces following the Syrian initiative was in response to a persistent security requirement. The role of these forces was defined at the Riyadh and Cairo conferences. Although their task was obstructed as a result of known circumstances, reasons beyond our will and their will and considerations transcending our boundaries, the continued presence of the Arab forces is at present a necessity dictated by the homeland's safety and the state's security. When we attain self-sufficiency in the security field and adequately prepare the national army in the near future, God willing, I assert and guarantee that the Arab forces will return to their countries with our gratitude.

In the meantime, to avoid the renewal of the clashes and speed up the return of the evacuees to their homes, the students to their schools and universities and the citizens to their work to resume their normal daily life, I have given the necessary instructions to adopt a number of security measures. These measures are mainly based on gradually increasing the responsibilities of the Lebanese Army and the Internal Security Forces in some areas.

AL-JUMAYYIL, SHAM'UN COMMENT ON SARKIS SPEECH

NC230712Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 23 Sep 78 NC

[Excerpt] Commenting on the speech by President Ilyas Sarkis, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil has said: President Sarkis has spoken as a person who is suffering. Therefore, his task is difficult. He has spoken frankly to the people about this matter and asked for everybody's help to overcome the ordeal.

Al-Jumayyil said: It is true that we the Lebanese are responsible, just as he is. Furthermore, it is imperative for all Lebanese to cooperate in order to overcome this ordeal, which is definitely the worst one which Lebanon has experienced.

Concerning what President Sarkis said about the renewal of the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces, Al-Jumayyil said: I take this opportunity to ask President Sarkis to see that legitimacy is indeed legitimacy--real legitimacy, not words but actions.

Former President Camille Sham'un said: I have already made my comment in the open letter which I addressed to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

It expresses my attitude toward the renewal of the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces. However, concerning the part of the President's message on the instructions he has issued on measures to increase the responsibilities of the army and the security forces in some areas, I do not want to embroil the army in all matters. Up to this moment, we have heard nothing but intentions. The implementation of these intentions is another thing. Apart from this, these intentions convey flexible expressions which include more dreams and illusions than facts.

However, concerning the president's talk about administrative decentralization and large-scale development, when the incidents end and all the armed foreigners have departed, we will think of settling matters among ourselves, away from pressure by any source. This is imperative if we are to take the necessary measures to achieve total freedom, particularly our freedom to choose the state we want.

SHAM'UN ASKS AL-ASAD TO WITHDRAW SYRIAN FORCES

NC221612Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1415 GMT 22 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Former President Camille Sham'un today addressed an open letter to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Sham'un called for the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanon in view of the abnormal methods to which they have resorted, such as breaking into shops and houses, arresting and killing citizens and humiliating them and throwing them in prison.

Former President Sham'un drew the attention of President al-Asad to the deviations in Syrian policy since the beginning of the war in Lebanon and to the fact that Damascus has given arms to the Palestinians in order to kill the Lebanese and destroy their property.

ARMY COMMANDER RETURNS FROM DAMASCUS

NC241745Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1615 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Lebanese Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri went to Damascus yesterday. He discussed with senior officials in the Syrian Command the new security plan which President Sarkis hinted at in his address to the people.

General Khuri returned from Damascus this afternoon to convey the results of his discussions to President Sarkis and to the foreign affairs and defense minister.

JUNBLATT TO VISIT DAMASCUS WITHIN 2 DAYS

JN230937Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 23 September--It was announced here today that Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, will visit Damascus in the next 2 days at the head of a delegation for talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and other senior officials. It was reported here that the aim of the visit is to learn the truth about the outcome of the Camp David summit. The visit will also deal with the issue of the Ihdin tripartite alliance among Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami and Walid Junblatt.

DETERRENT FORCES' COMMUNIQUE ON 22, 23 SEP FIGHTING

NC231004Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 23 Sep 78 NC

[Communique issued 23 September by Arab Deterrent Forces Command]

[Text] At 2115 on 22 September, following the almost total calm observed in the last few hours of the day, heavy shelling hit the positions of the Arab Deterrent Forces, particularly in At-Tayyunah and the Chevrolet building. Furthermore, machinegun fire was opened from 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Tahwitat Furn ash-Shubbak and Al-Hadath in the direction of the deterrent forces' positions facing these areas. As a result of this shelling, the barracks of Al-Masalih and At-Tarabulsi were hit and Sergeant First Class Samir Khuri, Corporal As'ad Salih and Private Michel Sim'an--all members of the Lebanese Army--were wounded. Also wounded in these barracks were Corporal Jum'ah Muhammad Mustafa and Private Ahmad Mansur ar-Rannah of the Syrian contingent of the deterrent forces stationed in the At-Tarabulsi barracks.

This action forced the Arab Deterrent Forces to silence the positions which had opened fire with a few heavy rounds from flat trajectory weapons. The Arab Deterrent Forces refrained throughout the day from returning sniper fire.

At 0930 on 23 September 1978, armed persons stationed in Al-Ashrafiyah suddenly fired machine-guns and other weapons from various directions on the positions of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Burj Rizq and the nearby buildings. It is worth noting that Al-Ashrafiyah had been visibly calm throughout the past 2 weeks and that this sudden conflagration has no direct relationship with the battlefield.

The Arab Deterrent Forces are dealing with the positions which opened fire with the appropriate weapons.

REPORTS BEIRUT SHELLING, CLASHES IN SOUTH

Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 23 Sep 78 NC

At 1400 today the Fifth Branch of the Lebanese Forces Command issued the following statement: At 0940 today, the Syrian regular forces began opening heavy machinegun fire on the residential buildings extending from the As-Salam playground to the 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Inklizi Street. The Syrian forces then opened an artillery and rocket barrage on Al-Ashrafiyah. The shelling ceased at 1200. However, intense sniping continues at this moment.

We have been informed that two cars were hit by sniper fire near the Palace of Justice. Soldiers manning the army barricade in the area moved the wounded to the hospital.

All this concerns Beirut and its outskirts. However, concerning the southern area, it has been learned that fierce clashes have occurred between the French forces and some Palestinian organizations on the combat lines of the two southern towns of (Jibsin) and Haris. The clashes broke out because the Palestinian elements infiltrated across the UNIFIL positions.

A 150-strong Norwegian force entered the southern area today as part of a UNIFIL rotation in the south.

AL-ASAD'S MEETING WITH CYRUS VANCE REPORTED

JN242015Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at 1215 today.

During the meeting, Mr Vance outlined the U.S. viewpoint on the Camp David agreements and answered the president's questions on these agreements.

The president explained that extreme frankness facilitates the exchange of views between the two sides. The president then explained Syria's principled and firm viewpoint, namely, that what happened at Camp David was in favor of Israel and gave it everything it wanted. It also totally contradicts Arab interests because it ignores basic Arab rights, particularly the Palestinian people's right to assert their identity, establish their independent state, and exercise sovereignty over their homeland. It also ignores the Arab sides' right to liberate the occupied territories, as well as Israel's total withdrawal from these territories.

The president explained that peace will remain our objective on the basis of Resolution No 338 and on the basis of our understanding of this resolution as we outlined it in the message sent to the UN Secretary General on 24 October 1973; namely, that this resolution means total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories and [recognition] of the total rights of the Palestinian people.

However, what happened at Camp David contradicts Resolution No 338. Thus, it conflicts with the objective of peace and cannot lead to the achievement of peace. Therefore, Syria strongly opposes the results of the Camp David conference.

The meeting lasted until 1700 today.

AL-BA'TH Comment

JN241352Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damsacus, 24 September--The newspaper AL-BA'TH comments today on Cyrus Vance's mission to the area and says that Cyrus Vance will read in Damascus--the heart of Arab steadfastness and confrontation--some words of history which were forgotten at Camp David and which would render the peddling of the conspiracy completely impossible.

The paper says that imposing the Camp David formulas, which are in conformity with the interests of the parties to the U.S. settlement and which try to make parties kneel [words indistinct] are part of a dream, because the future of the Arab area, whether this future be war or peace, will be decided on this land and by its people. The Camp David agreements are nothing more than a surrender by traitor As-Sadat. These agreements ignore a just and comprehensive peace and deviate from the international will represented by the UN Security Council resolutions. They have closed the door definitively to peace opportunities in the area and left the door wide open for war.

The paper concludes: Taking these facts into consideration, we can say that trying to peddle the documents of humiliation and capitulation as a fiat accompli--the reason Vance has been sent--is something impossible to achieve.

AMMAN RADIO: AL-ASAD TO VISIT MOSCOW, ARAB STATES SHORTLY

JN231857Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Sources well connected with the Damascus summit conference meetings have stated that President Hafiz al-Asad will make a tour of the Soviet Union and some Arab states during the next few days to explain the new strategy approved by the conference. The sources added that Al-Asad will speak on behalf of the presidents of Libya, PDRY and the PLO and will brief the Soviet leaders on the decisions taken by the Damascus summit conference against the Camp David agreements.

TISHRIN INTERVIEWS INFORMATION MINISTER ON CONFERENCE

JN241638Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1340 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 24 September--Minister of Information Iskandar Ahmad Iskandar has affirmed that the decisions of the conference of the Pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation--those announced and those covert--will give every chance for the utilization of all potentials and capabilities to serve the confrontation of the conspiracy.

In an interview published today by the newspaper TISHRIN, the minister said that the door will be kept open for any state, force or organization to have the honor of taking part in the confrontation of the impending danger that threatens our nation and land.

In reply to a question, the minister said that Syria has not and will not seek support from anybody and has been standing fast for 30 years in the face of aggression and ambitions. It will remain steadfast with the sacrifices of its great people, with their inexhaustible potentials and firmly-established determination.

ALGERIAN PRESIDENT LEAVES AT CONCLUSION OF SUMMIT

JN240923Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 2220 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 23 September--At 2330 today Algerian President Houari Boumediene and the delegation accompanying him left Damascus after participating in the meetings of the third conference of the state of the Pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation.

At the head of those seeing him off at Damascus International Airport were President Hafiz al-Asad, Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, deputy prime ministers, ministers, the Algerian ambassador in Damascus and the Syrian ambassador in Algiers.

Libyan, PDRY Leaders Depart

JN241515Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Sep 78 JN

[Excerpts] This morning, President Hafiz al-Asad met with President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council, and with President Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, General People's Congress secretary general in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The meeting took place before the departure of the PDRY and the Libyan leaders after they had attended the summit of steadfastness and confrontation. During the two meetings, talks focused on the future steps in light of the resolutions of the summit of steadfastness and confrontation which was held in Damascus.

At 1115 this morning, Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, General People's Congress secretary general in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, and the accompanying delegation left Damascus after they had attended the meetings of the third summit of the states of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation. President Hafiz al-Asad headed those who saw President al-Qadhdhafi off at Damascus International Airport. Among those who also saw the Libyan president off were Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, deputies of the prime ministers, ministers, PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat, the director of the Libyan Relations Office in Damascus, and the director of the Syrian Relations Office in Libya.

Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi sent a thank-you cable from the plane to President Hafiz al-Asad; the text of the cable is as follows: Brother President Hafiz al-Asad: As I leave the Syrian Arab Republic, I would like, in my name and on behalf of the delegation which accompanied me, to express my gratitude for the reception and hospitality we were accorded. I wish you continuing good health, and progress and prosperity for the fraternal people of Syria.

At 1130 this morning, chairman of the FDRY Presidential Council 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the accompanying delegation left Damascus after they had attended the meeting of the third summit of steadfastness and confrontation. President Hafiz al-Asad headed those who saw the FDRY president off at Damascus International Airport.

In a predeparture statement, President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said: As we leave the courageous city of Damascus, we would like to thank the fraternal Syrian Arab Republic--the president, the government and the people--for their great hospitality and warm reception. The third summit of the states of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, which concluded its meetings yesterday evening, enabled us--out of our feeling of responsibility and concern--to review and discuss the current Arab situation. We were able to analyze events in the Arab area since the summit of Algiers and in light of the convocation of the treacherous Camp David meeting which resulted in the capitulationist agreements and a new challenge for our Arab people. Our summit drew up important principles for the confrontation and support of the Palestinian revolution under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. These principles will also support Syria in the just pan-Arab struggle aimed at achieving victory over all hostile imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plots aimed at striking at the steadfastness of the Syrian and Palestinian peoples and at liquidating our main pan-Arab cause.

Our summit asserted the importance of consolidating and developing strategic relations with the Soviet Union and the other friendly socialist countries, the normal allies for the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation and the genuine supporter of our Arab peoples in their just struggle and of all forces of liberation, progress and peace. We consider that as a main aid to strengthen and support our front to achieve new victories over the aggressive imperialist-Zionist-reactionary designs.

All of us must immediately put into force the resolutions which were adopted by our summit. These resolutions resemble the actual answer to the continuous capitulationist steps of As-Sadat. We are most confident that all patriotic and progressive forces in the Arab world will face this new conspiracy and will carry out their national role to support the states of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation in this historic battle.

The Arab masses all over the Arab homeland have expressed their rejection and denunciation as well as their confrontation of the Camp David policies and all treasonous and capitulationist agreements signed or to be signed by As-Sadat in service to his overlords, the imperialists and the Zionists. We trust that the Arab masses, including the fraternal people of Egypt, will continue their course of struggle to foil this imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plot.

President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad sent the following cable to President Hafiz al-Asad: As I leave the Syrian Arab Republic, I would like to send you my warmest fraternal greetings and my wishes for continuous health, happiness and dignity. I also wish the Arab people of Syria progress, prosperity and victory. While expressing my gratitude for the warm hospitality accorded us during the third summit of the states of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, I stress that the positive resolutions which were adopted by our summit, as well as the bilateral meetings between our delegations, will deepen the fraternal relations and common struggle of our two countries.

DAMASCUS REPORTS ATHERTON TO VISIT KUWAIT 24 SEP

JN231422Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 23 September--SANA correspondent--It has been learned from a responsible source that Alfred Atherton, roving U.S. ambassador in the Middle East, will arrive in Kuwait tomorrow evening on a brief visit, during which he will hold talks with the Kuwait officials to explain the U.S. viewpoint toward the Camp David accords and the talks U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has held in Amman and Riyadh.

It is believed that Atherton's visit to Kuwait is part of his tour in the region for the same purpose.

ATH-THAWRAH: NATO 'BRANCH' TO BE ESTABLISHED IN CAIRO

JN230903Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 Sep 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "Opinion" column under the headline "NATO Branch Based in Cairo," the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH comments on the results of As-Sadat's signing the two Camp David agreements. The paper says that As-Sadat has begun to implement the conspiracy concocted in Camp David on the basis of imposing a de facto policy on the Arabs to legalize Israeli occupation and bolster it with what they have called U.S. guarantees for the fairy tale of Israeli security, and on the basis of liquidating the Palestinian cause. He began to implement this conspiracy after the three parties to the Camp David meeting agreed to establish a NATO branch based in Cairo and with the United States, Israel and Egypt as members. At the same time the implementation of the Camp David agreements is being prepared--for the realization of which As-Sadat is employing all his agencies--U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown will be visiting Egypt and Israel, as stated by well-informed U.S. defense sources. Brown's visit has the aim of expanding the power and military means of the two parties of this new NATO branch.

The paper concludes: Therefore, As-Sadat's future role will be embodied in cooperation, coordination and planning with Israel for dealing a blow to Arab steadfastness, the strength and will of which is represented by Syria.

The Arab masses are looking toward the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, confident that the results to be achieved by the conference will be capable of foiling the dangerous results of Camp David and As-Sadat's conspiracy.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON STEADFASTNESS CONFERENCE

JN251006Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 25 Sep 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Resolutions Require Immediate Implementation," the newspaper TISHRIN writes: The outcome of the third conference of steadfastness and confrontation in Damascus constitutes a turning point in the course of pan-Arab action characterized by seriousness, action and ingenuity. Demagogic statements are no longer the main feature. The main feature is now represented by planned action and practical steps based on a strategic vision.

In its history of confronting the imperialist and Zionist enemy, joint Arab action has never experienced such a serious stand as the one adopted by the forces of steadfastness and confrontation in their reply to the serious challenge presented by the Camp David summit.

TISHRIN adds: This serious stand is not represented in defining the enemy and the sources of the Arab resources capable of confronting and defeating the plot, but is represented in the practical steps to move Arab action to a practical and advanced stage capable of championing the intrinsic power in the battle of confrontation, and capable of deploying Arab friendships and relations on the international level for the sake of establishing economic, military and political balance with the enemy.

The decision to set up a higher command for the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, a joint military command, and political and information committees is significant for the present and future stages. This is because it moves the joint desire for cooperation to the stage of unifying forces and potentials aimed at undermining the enemy plot.

CONFERENCE REPORTEDLY FORMULATES MILITARY, POLITICAL STRATEGY

JN221655Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Sep 78 JN

[Station political commentary]

[Text] Just as the Tripoli conference formulated the political declaration establishing the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation and the Algiers conference set the basic principles for this declaration and opened the way for organized pan-Arab action, the current Damascus conference has crystallized the strategy of action on the political, military, economic and information levels.

These important results, which are the outcome of serious and objective discussions at the third summit conference of steadfastness and confrontation, clearly show that the will of the Arab nation and its spirit of challenge are still stronger than all the conspiracies which are being hatched against the nation whether overtly or covertly. These results, which in themselves mean a great deal, also categorically show that the reply to the serious results of the Camp David summit will indeed be on the level of the challenge and will, subsequently, achieve all objectives, whether in foiling As-Sadat's capitulationist initiative or in creating new circumstances and possibilities to liberate the occupied Arab territories and to regain the usurped rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

Thus, the third conference of steadfastness and confrontation in Damascus has risen, in its pan-Arab obligations, to the level of the dangers and challenges facing the Arab nation. It has succeeded in fulfilling quickly the hopes of the Arab masses. Leaders Al-Asad, Boumediene, Al-Qadhafi, Nasir and 'Arafat have not hesitated for a single moment to take all adequate measures to consolidate Arab steadfastness in order to pull the rug from under the feet of the surrendering Anwar as-Sadat.

All this can be seen by analyzing the nature of the discussions which have taken place in the conferences and the way these discussions have been conducted. Even foreign observers have been able to see clearly that these discussions were essentially based on practical matters which aimed at steering Arab steadfastness toward a head-on collision with the forces hostile to the Arab revolutionary movement.

Foreign observers have also noted that the discussions this time were conducted in great earnest and with a high sense of responsibility, drawing everyone's attention and creating a feeling of optimism among the Arab masses as well as a firm resolve to achieve victory. For instance, during the first meetings of the conference, President al-Asad requested every delegation to give its opinion on the results of the Camp David summit in writing in order to discuss them and benefit from them.

This means that the Damascus conference of steadfastness and confrontation has been able, through its composition and purport, to bridge the gaps that often separate historical incidents from their results. The conference has been able to place the Arab region on the threshold of Arab steadfastness which, in the end, will destroy all agents and traitors. If the Arab masses have followed the reports and details of the conference with close interest and responded to them positively, it is because they believe that the resolutions and programs of action coming out of the conference will be put into action immediately through the utilization of all Arab national resources in the interest of the liberation battle.

Since Syria and the Palestinian resistance are the two key members of the confrontation front against the Zionist enemy, it is only natural to suppose that the conference has discussed this matter in some detail and formulated a new plan for bolstering this front militarily and financially so that it will be able to resist the conspiracies and, consequently, deter any aggression against the Arab nation.

All this makes us believe that the third summit conference of steadfastness and confrontation in Damascus has adopted practical resolutions and achieved results compatible with the history of this nation and has decided to establish around the imperialist interests in the Arab region a mighty barrier of rejection and opposition until the enemies are convinced that As-Sadat only represented himself in all that he did and that the Arabs, who resisted defeat in the most sordid and difficult circumstances, are still standing on their feet and still have a deep sense of dignity and the ability to achieve victory.

To be more precise, the Damascus conference of steadfastness and confrontation is called upon now, more than at any time before, to explode the Arab land under the feet of the invaders and the capitulationists. It is also called upon to embody in its activities and results all the aspirations of the Arab nation and its renewing and developing national struggle. In order that the picture will be clear in everyone's mind, and in order also that Arab steadfastness will move to the trench of direct steadfastness against the Zionist enemy, the Arab region should, after the Damascus conference, abandon all the negative aspects of the current phase and turn into a vast arena for exercising all forms of practical national struggle.

MOROCCO

AS-SADAT'S DEPARTURE FROM RABAT REPORTED

NC231212Y Paris AFP in English 1151 GMT 23 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Rabat, Sep 23 (AFP)--Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat left here for Cairo today after a three-day private visit to Morocco during which he briefed King Hassan on the Camp David agreements reached with Israel. He was seen off by King Hassan and Moroccan Government leaders.

The Moroccan Government itself did not indicate its attitude on the Camp David summit, and no communique was issued at the end of President as-Sadat's stay. For the time being Morocco was simply examining "very closely" the text of the Camp David agreements, authoritative circles said.

According to observers here, the Moroccan king, although he warmly supported President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem last year, probably this time preferred to reserve his judgement. He was waiting to see his way more clearly among the strong Arab reactions against the agreement.

Contrary to earlier denials, visiting Saudi Arabia Vice-Premier Prince 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who is on a private visit here, did call on President as-Sadat last night, a reliable source said.

M'HAMED BOUCETTA COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT VISIT

LD231728Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpts] Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, left Casablanca today for New York where he will head the Moroccan delegation to the 33d ordinary UN General Assembly session.

In a declaration to a correspondent from Rabat radio, the minister of state spoke about the agenda of the UN General Assembly ordinary session and the Middle East issue following the visit to Morocco by His Excellency President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

Answering a question on the results of the Camp David summit following the visit of Egyptian President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, Mr Boucetta said: [begin recording]

Yes, after the Camp David meeting, President as-Sadat paid a short, 48-hour visit to Morocco. A little while ago he left Morocco after consulting with his brother, his majesty the king, and with a number of officials in Morocco, to explain what happened at the Camp David conference.

Here I would like to make two basic things clear: First, the solid fraternal relations between his majesty the king and President Anwar as-Sadat, and between the Moroccan and Egyptian peoples, are deep-rooted. We should always strive to strengthen them and put them in their proper framework. President as-Sadat's visit has showed that these relations are strong and that we want to insure that relations between the Moroccan and Egyptian peoples--and between the heads of their respective states--remain solid.

Second, Morocco has its own position on the Arab cause, the Middle East problem, and precisely, the Palestinian question. Morocco has its commitments to the Arab nation and the conferences held to examine the Palestinian question. [paragraph continues]

Morocco considers itself particularly responsible for insuring that the resolutions passed at the last conference retain their full validity and that they are upheld. As a matter of fact, the resolutions adopted at the 1973 Rabat conference clearly stated that a settlement in the Arab east region is impossible without an Israel withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem. The Rabat summit resolutions also stated that the Palestinian question is the core of the conflict; that no settlement can be secured in the region if this question is not regarded as the key question; that the Palestinians must set up their own state in their usurped territory; and that there must be a comprehensive settlement to the exclusion of any unilateral settlements.

In this regard Morocco's position has not changed and will not change. This is why we had to deal with the two things separately: Our relations with Egypt are fraternal and they should remain fraternal and solid. As we see it, nothing can be achieved in the Arab scene without Egypt, for Egypt is an important state, an important people, and Egypt has great weight in the region. But our position is, as I have made it clear, that we are committed to our Arab brothers. We shall always uphold this line and strive to unify the Arab ranks. In this regard we shall make every effort to restore Arab unity and effectiveness, and we shall have contacts with all Arab brothers who show the same eagerness to restore Arab unity and effectiveness--I mean all the states that have had to take positions in the last few days, such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAR and a number of other states--in order to calm down present emotions and restore unity and effectiveness to the Arab ranks. This we will do so that problems may be confronted calmly, reasonably and in the interest of the Arab nation and the Arab peoples. [end recording]

SUDAN

NUMAYRI ORDERS STUDY ON CAMP DAVID MEETING

LD232022Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Sep 78 LD/EA

[Text] The president of the republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, has directed Mr 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, the first vice president of the republic, that the Sudanese Socialist Union Foreign Affairs Committee, the People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee and the Political Department of the Foreign Ministry make a scientific analytical study on the results of the Camp David summit conference.

The president of the republic will call a joint meeting of the Political Bureau and the Council of Ministers to consider the results of these studies after his return from his tour of the United States and several European countries.

BEGIN RETURNS TO ISRAEL, MAKES AIRPORT STATEMENT

TA221421Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1333 GMT 22 Sep 78 TA

[Statement by Prime Minister Begin on his arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport on 22 September--live]

[Text] Citizens of Israel, dear friends: From Camp David we have brought you a peace agreement with security and honor. [applause] I open my announcement by expressing thanks to all those who made the achievement of this agreement possible.

I would like to thank our foreign minister and defense minister, who made an unimaginable contribution, both to the effort and to the positive results. I thank our friend and adviser, Professor Baraq, and Dr Rosenne, Major General Tamir, Dan Pattir and all the other colleagues who stood with us in this attempt of 12 days and 12 nights to prepare the details of the program. We were a team; a team of colleagues; we worked in understanding. We also knew arguments, sometimes most serious ones. We had to deliberate and be questioned not only about sentences but even over letters. You must know that it is this team that brought us the agreement. Our thanks are due to it.

I want to thank the President of the United States in the name of Israel. Mr Carter worked on this agreement day and night. We went to bed between 0300 and 0400 and we continued as of 0600. It is a long time since I have seen a man, the head of a country, the head of a world power, devote 12 days and 12 nights to one single matter and hand over the administration of the affairs of his nation to his deputy. He did not spare either himself or his aides, but deliberated over every section and every detail--and not lightly, but with patience and in the belief that in the end the agreement would be signed.

I would like, in the name of the entire nation of Israel, to send thanks to Mr Jimmy Carter, the President of the United States, for his work and his contribution to this important agreement [applause] which has laid the groundwork for peace between us and our neighbors.

I also want to thank the president of Egypt, Mr Anwar as-Sadat, and all his colleagues and advisers, who were with him and followed him and who made the contribution on the final day so that we should be able, on our departure for Washington, to tell the U.S. nation and all the nations of the world: Yes, indeed, we have an agreement; foundations for peace.

Can we, citizens of Israel, today tell you, "We have brought you peace"? Not yet. There will be hard days still. There will yet be tests and attempts. There are still problems which we must overcome. There will yet be efforts we must make, but the firm foundations are laid for the achievement of a peace agreement and a peace treaty between us and Egypt and, in its wake, between us and the other neighbors. Therefore, I have news to impart: We have laid the foundations for peace in the Middle East.

I particularly want to thank the teachers, who stopped their strike in connection with this event. I have a request for them: they should continue to teach children in Israel's schools without another strike. We will work for peace and the teachers for the Torah and so we will advance together.

I wish you all Shabbat shalom, Shabbatshalom [applause] and a good and blessed new year for the whole house of Israel. A year of peace. A year of peace. [applause]

My desire is, that, with the aid of the Lord, we will be able speedily to sign a peace treaty and give the news that, not only in this generation, but in the coming generations, too, we will live in our country in peace, in honor, in freedom and in justice. [applause]

BEGIN REPORTS CABINET DECISION; MINISTERS QUESTIONED

TA241743Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 24 Sep 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] The cabinet session today lasted for 8 hours, a session which was longer than normal. Political correspondent Shalom Qital reports on what occurred:

For the first time, at the end of the long and stormy cabinet session, Prime Minister Menahem Begin announced specifically that it would be necessary to remove the settlements in the Rafah approaches in the framework of a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. Up to now the reference has only been to the Knesset's decision and the prime minister took care not to express his views. At the end of the cabinet session he revealed the text that he will propose for the conclusion of the political debate which will open in the Knesset tomorrow. [begin recording]

[Begin] The Knesset approves the Camp David agreements signed by the prime minister in the White House on 17 September 1978. If, in negotiations between Egypt and Israel over the signing of a peace treaty, all the problems touching on this treaty are agreed on and the agreement on them takes the form of a written document, the Knesset and the cabinet authorize, in the framework of this peace treaty, and during a period of time to be agreed upon in negotiations between the sides, the removal of the Israeli settlers from Sinai and their resettlement.

This is the cabinet decision which will be included tomorrow in my opening speech prior to the Knesset debate and which will be put to a vote in the Knesset on Wednesday. The debate will, indeed, begin tomorrow. Not all the factions will be able to take part in it--for example, the MAFDAL has requested a postponement to Wednesday because it has internal consultations. Because of this, all the factions that wish to take part in the debate tomorrow will indeed do so, but the MAFDAL, maybe other factions also, are likely to, or may, postpone their participation in the debate until Wednesday--and on Wednesday, after the conclusion of the debate, there will be a vote and this will be the decision which will be proposed by the cabinet for the conclusion of the debate in the Knesset.

Eleven cabinet members voted in favor of this proposal, two voted against and one abstained. The three MAFDAL members did not take part in the vote. Two of them announced that they would recommend to the MAFDAL leadership, or the MAFDAL institutions, to vote in favor of the draft resolution, as I have read it to you. One of them reserved for himself the right to decide on this after the leadership's meeting. [end recording]

[Qital] Eleven in favor, two against. The two against were members of the Likud's La'am--Yigael Horowitz and Eli'ezer Shostaq. They were not prepared to go into detail but confirmed publicly that they were opposed. On leaving the session we tried to get Ministers Horowitz and Shostaq to say something. [begin recording]

[Horowitz] A large majority was in favor of this, the approval of the proposals.

[Qital] Were you opposed?

[Horowitz] Yes.

[Qital] Are you prepared to explain?

[Horowitz] Not now.

[Qital] Mr Shostaq, you are Horowitz' friend in the La'am faction. You voted against, is this not so?

[Shostaq] Certainly.

[Qital] Do you intend to draw conclusions?

[Shostaq] No conclusions, we are now going to the meeting of the party's leadership and what the party's leadership decides....

[Qital] You, too Minister Horowitz, do you not intend to draw conclusions from the....

[Horowitz] No conclusions, my position is....

[Qital] You remained in a minority on an issue of such principle?

[Horowitz] My position is known, the issue is in the hands of the party and those of the prime minister and that's all. What conclusions? In a word, we proposed separating the proposals into two parts and because the proposal was not accepted, we voted against both proposals.

[Shostaq] Exactly. [end recording]

[Qital] Minister Hayyim Landau abstained in the voting, while Yizhaq Moda'i opted not to participate in the voting at all, like the MAFDAL ministers, who did not want to vote, not even in the cabinet, before they had consulted with their party. Ministers Burg and Abu-Hazera support the agreement, while Zevulun Hammer did not express his opinion.

From the majority, from the ministers who today supported the agreement, there is Minister of Justice Shemu'el Tamir. I asked him about his feelings as he left the session. [begin recording]

[Tamir] My feelings are that the cabinet made a correct, difficult, unavoidable decision which is demanded in the situation of the State of Israel. I think there is no place for rejoicing. There is a very important advance here, with a chance for peace. There is a very heavy and very painful price, but there was no alternative to this path and there is the hope of making an opening for a new era.

[Qital] There are ministers who claim, and therefore they also voted against the decision passed in the cabinet, that it was necessary to make a separation between the agreements made at Camp David and the decision to evacuate the Rafah approaches. What is your feeling about the evacuation of the Rafah approaches settlements? Should there have been a separation?

[Tamir] My feeling is very heavy and I think that this is a price more difficult than anything else, but it is an inseparable part of the factual data, it is an inseparable part of the comprehensive agreement, and the State of Israel had to choose between the chance for peace and taking this step, which is, personally, painful for everyone, deeply, but the choice was hard and it demanded a decision and the ability to decide, and the cabinet had the ability to decide.

[Qital] Do you think, Mr Tamir, that the team that was at Camp David, in the final analysis, acted in consultation only with itself, did not consult with the first cabinet and that you agreed only after the fact?

[Tamir] No, no, I do not accept that.

[Qital] That is?

[Tamir] That team heard the cabinet at two specific sessions, it knew the positions of its ministers, it knew the position of each and every member and was given a mandate in advance to do the best according to its talents and abilities. It fought, it strived, it achieved the maximum that it was possible to achieve and, after the fact, it received the authorization of the cabinet for the second time. [end recording]

[Qital] In order to end this cabinet session in a good atmosphere, there was a proposal, and actually by one of those who was in the opposition, Minister Eli'ezer Shostaq, to officially bless the members of the Israeli delegation to Camp David, the cabinet secretary, Arye Na'or, read this decision: [begin recording]

[Na'or] The cabinet expresses its gratitude to the prime minister, the foreign minister and the defense minister and all the members of Israel's delegation to the negotiations at Camp David and blesses the agreements achieved with Egypt regarding a framework for the signing of a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel and regarding the framework of the peace which will be made in the Middle East. [end recording]

BEGIN TO REPORT TO KNESSET DEFENSE COMMITTEE

NC241150Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Tomorrow the prime minister will report to the Knesset Defense and Foreign Relations Committee on the Camp David agreements. This debate will take place immediately after the Knesset session, during which the prime minister and the chairman of the Labor Party will deliver speeches. In preparation for these discussions, activity is apparent in some parties. This afternoon the National Religious Party [NRP] leaders will meet with Menahem Begin in order to hear detailed explanations from him about the Camp David agreements. Tomorrow the party directorate will meet to discuss the faction's position in the Knesset voting. The day after tomorrow the NRP center will discuss the same issue.

This evening the Democratic Party faction will hear a report from the deputy prime minister and will also adopt a stand on Knesset voting. The Alinement faction will also meet this afternoon for the same purpose.

LIKUD SEEKS TO POSTPONE KNESSET VOTE

TA241843Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Sep 78 TA

[Text] The leadership of the Knesset Likud faction has decided to recommend to the Knesset that the vote on the cabinet's decision be postponed until Thursday. The Likud faction is asking for a meeting of the Herut Movement center before the voting. The Likud faction has further decided to demand that the voting in the Knesset should be united, that is, there should be no separate voting on the removal of the Yamit strip settlements.

The Alinement faction also decided today to demand united voting in the Knesset, although the Kibbutz Hame'uhad center has decided to advise its representative in the Labor Party and the Knesset to demand separate votes.

Kibbutz Hame'uhad says in its decision that the cabinet's agreement to uproot settlements is a grave error from the security and political aspects because it may create the illusion that a similar settlement is also possible on the Golan Heights and in the Jordan Rift Valley. The ITIM correspondent reports that most of the speakers, including Yigal Allon and Yizhaq Ben-Aharon, expressed support for the Camp David agreements and felt there is no alternative to removing the settlements in the Rafah approaches.

COALITION HEAD TO DEMAND DISCIPLINE IN KNESSET VOTE

TA250621Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 25 Sep 78 TA

[Text] The coalition head, MK Hayyim Corfu, says that he will demand coalition discipline in the vote on the Camp David agreements. In a talk with correspondent Zevi Lidor MK Hayyim Corfu said this demand is inevitable in the wake of the vote of the two La'am ministers at the cabinet meeting yesterday and after the La'am faction decided to vote against the Camp David agreements. He said it is impossible for the La'am faction to want to enjoy both worlds and appear as the savior of the greater Eretz Yisra'el in contrast with the other Likud factions.

YAMIT COMMITTEE SCORES BEGIN POSITION ON SETTLEMENTS

TA250652Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 25 Sep 78 TA

[Text] The Action Committee of the Yami' District says it rejects with disgust the prime minister's announcement yesterday. The committee emphasizes that this is not an evacuation of settlers but the liquidation of permanent security settlements and the conversion of secure borders into a bargaining card. The Action Committee calls on the prime minister to come and explain to the district settlers how his clear commitment, made on the eve of his trip to Camp David, to continue settlement is compatible with the announcement he will make at the Knesset today.

The ceremony of populating the new settlements of Peri'el and Talmey Yosef will take place in the Yamit District today. They will be peopled by 50 families.

RIGHTISTS URGE NOT TO ALLOW REMOVAL OF SETTLEMENTS

TA231442Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 23 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Members of the 'Ayn Vered group and the Greater Israel Movement meeting this morning in Nahalal in an emergency session demanded that Knesset members vote against the removal of settlements and that a separate and open vote be conducted on the fate of the Yamit District settlements. According to them, the removal of settlements in the Rafah approaches will serve as a precedent in the wake of which settlements will be removed from the Golan Heights and the West Bank as well. A real peace is one which will enable every Jewish settlement to continue to exist on its land.

Participants at the meeting appealed to the settlement movements requesting that they act within their party centers against this trend.

Members of settlements from the Yamit district, Judaea and Samaria and the Golan Heights also participated in today's meeting.

GUSH EMUNIM TO DEMONSTRATE DURING KNESSET DEBATE

TA241655Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 24 Sep 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] A large demonstration is planned for tomorrow to coincide with the opening of the Knesset debate on the Camp David agreements and the future of the Rafah approaches settlements.

Today, all the elements opposed to the removal of settlements got organized for joint action--including Knesset members, people from the Rafah approaches, Gush Emunim members and members of settlements from all over the country. A combined general headquarters was established to coordinate the protest activities and demonstrations scheduled for the next few days. Correspondent Asher Fisch reports:

We hope that a demonstration at the Knesset during the debate on the agreements will be one of the greatest we have held recently, said Zevi Slonim, one of the heads of Gush Emunim, who is now working in the joint general headquarters of the bodies who are opposed to the removal of the settlements. According to the plans, many demonstrators will go to Jerusalem tomorrow with heavy agricultural equipment, such as tractors and combines. At the entrance to the town those whom they call the beloved of the land and of Jerusalem will wait and they will be received with bread and salt, in contrast with the reception of bread and wine given the Prime Minister Menahem Begin when he returned from Camp David. There will also be a short ceremony at that time. From there they will march to the Knesset building and demonstrate on the lawn in front of the building.

The demonstration will begin at 1500 tomorrow and, according to the organizers, will last until the Knesset deliberations come to an end, even if this takes several days.

In preparation for the demonstration all the bodies opposed to the agreements and the removal of the Rafah approaches settlements have organized themselves into a joint general headquarters to coordinate their activities. The Rafah approaches settlements, the Jordan Rift Valley settlements and those from the Golan Heights, members of the Greater Israel Movement, Gush Emunim members, members of Mercaz Harav [Center of the Majority], those who participated in the Nahalal rally headed by the 'Ayn Vered group, all will be represented in the joint general headquarters, which will be supported by several Knesset members. The significance of this unity is that no body will act on its own for the next few days.

According to Gush Emunim people, all this will be a short interlude in their activities. That is, there will be no attempts at settlement in Judaea and Samaria. It was also agreed among all the bodies who have united that all the activities will be carried out within the framework of the law; this also follows the call by the spiritual leader of Gush Emunim, Rabbi Zevi Yehuda Kook, not to break the laws of the country.

AGUDAT YISRA'EL, SHAY TO SUPPORT ACCORDS

TA242019Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Another coalition partner, Agudat Yisra'el, decided today, in its political committee, that its four Knesset members will vote in favor of the peace settlement and, if necessary, will vote separately in favor of removing the settlements. Tomorrow the Agudat Yisra'el leaders will meet for an explanatory talk with the prime minister.

Another movement which is at this moment reaching a positive decision to support the cabinet is SHAY, the Movement for Change and Initiative, the new opposition group, and it is led in this decision by Me'ir 'Amit and Amnon Rubinstein.

For now an estimated result following today's meetings: in favor of the framework settlement 32 Alinement members, or most of them; 7 members of SHAY and 4 Knesset members from Agudat Yisra'el. Against the agreement will vote the 8 La'am Knesset members, or most of them, while the 12 MAPDAL MK's have not yet made a final decision on how they will vote.

PERES WILL VOTE FOR ACCORDS; NOTES IMPLICATIONS

TA231455Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 22 Sep 78 p 20 TA

[Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres article]

[Text] My education in the movement taught me to take fateful decisions and to live with them. The difficulty in taking such decisions is not merely in evaluating the advantages involved, but also the disadvantages and risks--big as they may be--and to keep your eyes open.

Therefore, it will not be difficult for me to vote in favor of the Camp David agreements, and to congratulate the government on them. Not only because I believe that peace is likely to change in a positive way the process of Jewish history, but also because I am convinced that failure at Camp David would have plunged the Middle East into chaos and would have condemned Israel to severe isolation. However, we must not let this blind us and blur our judgment or prevent us from seeing the problems that confront us and the need to tackle them in good time.

At Camp David not only agreements--framework agreements--were signed, there were also seeds sown from which a new reality is to sprout. In the course of time the documents will become old, but from the seeds that were sown in the soil of the agreement a new landscape will arise. At least two seeds were sown--the seed of peace in the part between ourselves and Egypt, and the seed of Palestinian reality in the part between ourselves and Jordan. On the face of it these seeds do not have to grow simultaneously. As-Sadat claimed repeatedly that he was prepared to proceed as the first in the peace campaign, and if necessary he would go it alone--on condition that Israel agree to a full withdrawal from Sinai and to a declaration of principles concerning the solution of the Palestinian problem in Judaea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

There was a great deal of ado about these words of As-Sadat, which were said "in camera." Why didn't he say them in public? How can he be believed? There were those who thought (in his place) that he was unable to take decisions on his own responsibility, cut off from Jordan and Syria. But it is a fact that what he said in private conversations has now become public knowledge, with the signing and publishing of the Camp David agreements.

I am convinced that with the Arab world, without As-Sadat's daring and Egypt's going it alone, it would have been impossible to reach the agreements that have been reached. On the other hand, we have to take into account that the seed of peace is still in its primary stages, and needs fertile soil, water and air to breathe. We Israelis, for Israeli reasons, have all the reasons in the world to provide the conditions of growth for that seed. Moreover, we ought to give particular prominence to the large concessions which we have made, in order to strengthen As-Sadat's stand in the bitter controversy which he has to conduct with his rivals in the Arab world. [paragraph continues]

We ought to abstain from pompous declarations, which would be untimely and which would only provoke counterdeclarations. We have to bear in mind that the sapling of peace with its tiny roots still has to overcome many obstacles and real problems, such as the problem of Jerusalem, or the question of settlements in the territories, or the impression made by, and rate of, progress in the negotiations concerning the future of the West Bank and Gaza as well. For the things that have not been written into the agreements can also influence the fate of those things that have been written in them.

2. [as published] For the agreement with Egypt there exists a map and a timetable. For the framework agreement about the future of Judaea and Samaria there is no map and no clear timetable (except for the fact that autonomy applies to the territories within the pre-June 1967 borders). There exists no written link between the two agreements or between the maps or their dates. Nevertheless, by the nature of things there exists interaction. After all, it wasn't the Palestinians who went to war because of Egypt but vice versa. However, before we examine the real interaction between the two agreements, it is fitting that we review in brief the timetable agreed upon.

As regards the agreement with Egypt, the order is clear: In 3 months (or less) a peace agreement will be signed, after negotiations between Egypt and Israel. Within 3-9 months after the peace agreement is signed, the IDF will withdraw to a temporary line that is to be agreed upon in negotiations; 2-3 months after the partial withdrawal diplomatic relations and open boundaries will be established.

That is to say: a period of 6-9 months will pass until the IDF will partially withdraw from Sinai (the complete withdrawal will take 2-3 years), and a period of 9-12 months will pass before Egypt will establish diplomatic relations with us. No doubt this is a critical time in negotiations. During that period the parties involved will look every which way and will listen to any noise and whisper, before pulling out the pens to sign the peace agreement and before its actual implementation. It is a period during which the peace-seekers must encourage the peace process and campaign.

More difficult is the situation concerning Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. There is also a certain order: Egypt, Jordan and Israel have to agree on a way in which the authority of self-administration is to be established in the territories. After the representatives have elected that authority and it has come into being, the military government will be abolished, and the IDF will withdraw to security strongholds.

Autonomy will merely be a temporary plan for a period that will not exceed 5 years. "As soon as possible, but not later than 3 years" after the self-administration has been established, negotiations will begin on the final status of the territories. The outcome of the negotiations will be put to the vote of the elected representatives. On the face of it this is a clear order, except for the question of when the elections for the self-administration authority are to take place, and whether it will be possible to hold such elections. For only in the wake of such elections will the entire agreement start moving.

Under such circumstances, but not only because of them, a great deal of significance is to be attached to the principles on which it has been agreed to build the future of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Even if they don't have predetermined dates, they do have a specific character and capacity of existence despite the haze and uncertainty concerning the beginning of their implementation.

3. We are now coming to the second seed--that of the Palestinian reality--which was sown in the Camp David agreements. In that agreement one can interpret the issue of "the borders of autonomy" in two ways: if it does not contain a commitment for new borders, then its borders will remain those of June 4, 1967. However, if Security Council Resolution 242 applies to Judaea and Samaria "with all its statements and clauses," a withdrawal from those territories will be unavoidable, though not from all the territories. Actually there exists a comment to that problem. In the "Framework Agreement for Peace in the Middle East" it is laid down, in the clause that deals with the West Bank and Gaza, that the negotiations (concerning their future) will be based on "all statements and principles of Resolution 242." It also says that the negotiations "will solve, among other things, the location and the borders as well as the nature of the security arrangements."

Apart from the matter of borders, there is also a definition--which so far Israel had refused to accept--that concerns the problem of the Palestinians. Apart from the assurance of Israel's security needs, it says in the framework agreement that "the solution (which will derive) from the negotiations has to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their just needs."

For the first time, Israel recognizes in a clear formulation the existence of a "Palestinian people" (Mr Begin carefully used to say "the Palestinian Arabs"). Since the Palestinians have been recognized as a people it is not difficult to guess what their legitimate rights are, for example the right of self-determination, especially since it constitutes the decisive majority in those territories. Even if sovereignty should remain an undecided issue--the legitimate rights of a people carry concrete legal weight, even in the absence of an unequivocal juridical definition concerning the ownership of the territory.

On the face of it, one can say: What's so bad? If elections are not held, and if Jordan does not get into the picture, then we would remain in the present situation and wait for things to come. This assumption immediately arouses a series of questions.

4. If we wait another few years, would the number of Arabs in the territories decrease? Would international support for their "legitimate rights and just needs" decrease? Would their national aspirations dwindle? Would, in another few years, those principles, concerning which Israel signed in the presence of the United States, become obsolete or expire or be abolished? What is to happen during the period of postponement? Shall we be able to live in "coexistence" while establishing new settlements? Will the establishment of settlements also be postponed? If additional settlements are established, what will be the reaction of the United States on the one hand and Egypt on the other?

If Jordan fails to enter the negotiations, and in the absence of an "independent self-administrative authority," would not pressure arise in Egypt and on Egypt to enter into negotiations for the future of Judaea and Samaria? For then, of course, the question would arise: what will influence what more; Egypt's going toward peace and dragging Jordan in its wake, or lack of a settlement concerning the West Bank and Gaza, and the influence of that lack on Egypt's progressing toward peace?

Let us not forget that peace, when achieved (and its value must not be belittled by an iota) will be a split peace. [paragraph continues]

It will be constantly burdened and bothered by the rejection front. In the north Syria and Iraq will continue to be armed with Soviet weapons and be helped by Soviet support, while the PLO will continue to incite everybody against the peace, and what is called "the Palestinian problem" will continue to nag at Israel's international status.

It is true that the Arab option for war became very small the moment Egypt decided not to serve any longer as the senior partner in a coalition for another war. But the question is whether the existence of such an option may not bother Egypt herself, and may obligate her to adopt postures which are not conducive to the spirit of peace, that ought to reflect the new policy which she has chosen. Jordan's refusal and the absence of a settlement would also influence Saudi Arabia's posture. The United States, which surely feels a moral obligation to get on with things in the territories, would not ignore that problem.

The conclusion is, of course, that certain rules have been laid down concerning the future of the territories, and it is doubtful whether the postponement of their implementation would create a comfortable situation for Israel, or whether it would pull the Middle East wagon in the opposite direction.

5. The Palestinian people, who have won recognition in this document, are likely to have an autonomous administration--elected, independent of the military government (which will be abolished), an administration with police, with the possibility of taking political decisions, with the right to return uprooted refugees who have the authority to decide, through its elected representatives, how to conduct its daily affairs ("in accordance with the stipulations of the agreement"), and to constitute the majority which will approve the final agreement concerning the future of the territories.

Such definitions and powers are not merely ink on paper; they lean on the existence of more than 4 million Arabs who live in those territories, just as they derive from their existence. This is a population center which has one of the highest birthrates in the world. It will in the future be supported by the Arab and Moslem world, will be influenced by the PLO and will be able to turn to the United States--the crown witness of the existence of the Camp David agreements--for the realization of those rights.

This is not a simple picture, but it is an accurate picture, it is a picture not exactly a "still life," but a landscape alive and growing. Nevertheless, we will support the Camp David agreement, and despite its inherent gravity, it is preferable that not only the signing of it should be honored, but also the inherent commitments. Regrets about having signed it will not annul its existence. Ignoring it will not ensure that the seed of peace which was sown at Camp David will sprout and eventually bear fruit.

Therefore, Israel has an interest in having Jordan join the negotiations. Her absence from the negotiations is liable to create dynamics for the establishment of a Palestinian state, while Jordan's participation in the negotiations will make possible a solution of the Palestinian problem within a Jordanian-Palestinian framework.

The liberation from the policy of war is a very valuable thing. It is an act that can be executed in one stroke. Peace, on the other hand, is a process that has to be constantly cultivated, fortified and deepened. It requires more than a one-time payment. In order to enhance it, one must constantly cut and trim the factors which in the past have produced the wars and which may lead to the impoverishment of peace in the future.

In war, considerations of strength are of decisive value. In peace the factors which prevent the need to use force are of decisive weight. War requires general mobilization; peace is built on magnanimity.

We ought to look at the Camp David agreements as a balance; a balance sheet with a credit side and a debit side, but in the end it is a positive balance. It ought to be regarded also as a new reality, which has the power of growth as well as forces which threaten its growth. Just as we will give our support at the beginning of the new era, so we will give our help in making it develop as a blessing for the whole region, as the materialization of a great Jewish dream.

SOLDIERS REMOVE ILLEGAL SETTLERS IN WEST BANK

NC240642Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] In the early hours of the morning, the army evacuated some residents of Qiryat Arba' outside Hebron from an illegal settlement they had established on a nearby hill. The soldiers broke through a barbed-wire fence that settlers had put up and went up the hill on foot. The illegal settlement attempt began last night.

NRP TO PROPOSE REFERENDUM ON SETTLEMENTS

NC240646Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] The National Religious Party secretary, Danny (Vermud), will propose that the prime minister hold a referendum on the future of the Yamit settlements. Mr (Vermud) told reporter Sara Frankel that the ballot has already been prepared for the municipal elections and that ballot boxes can be added for the purpose of the referendum.

Today the NRP leaders will meet with the prime minister to hear clarification, particularly on the issue of the settlements.

WEST BANK INHABITANTS MAY NOT COOPERATE WITH GOVERNMENT PACT

NC240640Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that officers belonging to the military administration are pessimistic about the possibility of cooperation with the inhabitants of Judea and Samaria at this stage. They base this conclusion on the inhabitants' state of mind regarding the Camp David agreements.

The military administration officers have learned that those who support the PLO will not cooperate in holding elections for the autonomy council. Those who support Jordan will not pledge themselves to this cause as long as Jordan will not permit them to do so, or as long as it does not join the negotiations.

RAMALLAH MAYOR RETURNS FROM U.S. TOUR

NC231047Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 23 Sep 78 NC

[Text] This morning the mayor of Ramallah, Karim Khalaf, returned home following the military government's request that he shorten his visit to the United States in the wake of the Camp David agreements. The mayor of Hebron, Fahd Qawasmah, will also return soon from a visit to Britain.

Correspondent Pinhas Inbari reports that Israel intends to start contacts with public figures in the territories. The contacts will be established following the Knesset debate, and when the situation in the Arab world becomes clearer.

MAYOR OF GAZA POSTPONES RETURN FROM ABROAD

NC241026Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] The mayor of Gaza, Rashid ash-Shawwa, has decided to prolong his stay in a number of Arab countries. He has been abroad for 4 months. Rashid ash-Shawwa was the first to propose a limited period of self-autonomy for the inhabitants of the occupied territories, during which a local leadership would be groomed to take over.

NEW NEGEV INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN IN VIEW OF SINAI PULLBACK

TA241359Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Sep 78 p 2 TA

[By Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] A team of experts from all government ministries will, through a committee established by the Defense Ministry, examine the aspects of evacuating the Sinai from the point of view of construction and infrastructure.

The team will act in accordance with guidelines from Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and his deputy, Mordekhay Zippori, and within a short while will examine the issues of investments in the Negev and the plans covering the redeployment of the IDF.

One of the aims of the team is to prevent drastic price rises and easy profits for building contractors.

The team, which will include various experts, among them from the Ministries of Finance and Construction, will recommend transferring development plans involving the paving of roads and infrastructure work to the south.

The IDF will act in accordance with the recommendations of this team.

SOURCES: AS-SADAT 'AGREED TO 3-MONTH SETTLEMENT FREEZE'

NC241255Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Political correspondent Shalom Qital has learned that the settlement freeze in Judeaea and Samaria mentioned in the Camp David agreements is confined to a 3-month period only. Responsible sources in Jerusalem possess proof that President as-Sadat has also explicitly said that for the time being, a period of not more than 3 months has been agreed upon.

EGYPT REPORTEDLY TO DISBAND SEVERAL ARMY UNITS

TA232130Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 23 Sep 78 TA

[Text] By the end of the year Egypt will disband several army units. This was reported today by the Egyptian news agency. The soldiers from these units will be retrained and will be discharged from the army. President as-Sadat recently said that the manpower to be released would serve to make Egypt's wilderness bloom. He said that the war of liberation is over and now all Egyptians must work together in the enterprise of building.

MODA'I ON POSSIBLE COOPERATION BETWEEN ISRAEL, EGYPT

TA221236Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 22 Sep 78 p 4 TA

[By Beni Baraq]

[Text] According to Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yizhaq Moda'i, Israel has proposed to Egypt, through an international oil company, that four joint oil projects be set up in the Sinai.

The minister said that the contacts with the Egyptians began immediately after President as-Sadat's visit in Israel and have continued. The contacts were held via an international oil company with interests both in Israel and in Egypt. Egypt was first questioned in general on the possibilities for cooperation between the parties, and later Israel submitted four written proposals for joint projects.

According to Moda'i, indirect answers have been received from the Egyptians that these projects are "most interesting." However, in their opinion it will be possible to discuss the projects in detail only after the signing of a peace agreement between Egypt and Israel.

The four projects proposed to Egypt by Israel are:

- A. The establishment of a container depot in the Suez that will serve both the oilfields located in the Israeli side of the Suez Gulf and the oilfield located on the Egyptian side.
- B. The establishment of joint refineries.
- C. A joint use of the gas which is the by-product of the oil and which is today totally burned by the Egyptians.
- D. The last project, proposed to Egypt about a month and a half ago, refers to the plan to lay a pipe for the transfer of oil from the Suez Gulf to Elat.

Moda'i added that he hopes that now, in the wake of the Camp David talks it will be possible to approach the application of some of these projects. He also said that stopping the oil searches in the region of the Rafah approaches is not planned at the moment and that these continue as usual.

HA'AREZ ON MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF CAMP DAVID

TA221556Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 22 Sep 78 p 18 TA

[Se'ev Schiff commentary]

[Text] The immediate security implication of a separate peace agreement with Egypt is a drastic reduction of the military threat hanging over Israel. This agreement does not put an end to military threats--and this should be remembered well--both because on the eastern front Syria, Iraq and Jordan are still building up their armed forces, and also because of terrorist activity coming from the direction of the West Bank, which is likely to foul up our lives and to cause, in the future, large clashes as well.

The military threats are not disappearing from Israel's ambit, because we may find ourselves in a situation where the agreement with Egypt is torpedoed. In such a serious situation, the threat will be greater than ever before, because of the new geographical conditions and the strength of the forces of the two sides which have never before been so big and extensive. There are even those who prophesy such a development. Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, who objects to As-Sadat's policy, has written in the U.S. journal, FOREIGN AFFAIRS (July 1978, in an article on Egyptian foreign policy), that: "Such an agreement (a separate peace between Israel and Egypt) will not be a genuine peace. At most this will be a temporary armistice."

Haykal was certainly surprised, as were many Israelis, that the agreement was achieved. Israel will carry out the painful operation concerning the settlements in the Rafah approaches and in Sinai, but from the military viewpoint it may be assumed that Haykal's opinion will be accepted--that the agreement may be fouled up. This was one of our main points of reference in the discussions of the Military Committee with Egypt.

The former chief of staff, Lt Gen Mordekhay Gur, once claimed that one of Israel's central requirements was a reduction of armed forces. After Israel's return to the international boundary in the south, thinning-out of forces and demilitarization will not be enough. Egypt will have to prove her intentions of preparing for peace, also in the reduction of her large army. Egypt's immediate reaction was that it was not possible that the initiative for such a reduction should be the result of an Israeli "diktat," even though this may be an unavoidable process. Within a year or two, the Egyptian armed forces will release a considerable part of its men, and this will lead to a reduction in the number of divisions.

I don't know whether our people have satisfied themselves with this superficial and non-obligatory estimate. However, nothing was achieved in this field at Camp David. The agreements make no mention of the question of reduction of forces, and that is a pity. They just mention the less important steps such as demilitarization, thinning-out, early-warning stations, follow-up arrangements and international forces. This is a big disadvantage, and as long as the deliberations have not been completed it is important to stress the reduction of forces. This should be sought even though the agreement may relate to reduction of forces in the future after an additional Arab state joins the peace agreements with Israel.

The Egyptians are claiming, with a certain degree of justification, that aside from the eastern border they have security problems on other frontiers as well, proof of which may be seen in extensive border clashes with the Libyans. But this does not justify the maintenance of an army numbering hundreds of thousands of men, some 2,000 tanks and hundreds of planes, particularly after receiving Sinai and inasmuch as the Israeli armies will withdraw hundreds of kilometers from the Egyptian heartland.

In any case, it may be assumed that Egypt will ask for reciprocity in this matter; if it undertakes to reduce its army, it will demand the same from Israel. In this connection, the problem is more complicated. Israel, for its part, will continue to be involved in a status of war with a number of Arab states, but not so for Egypt. Israel will have to face up to the eastern front, which has been getting stronger and stronger since the Yom Kippur War. Israel's part in the reduction of forces, in the first stage and as long as there is a dispute between it and Syria, can be in changes in deployment. If the IDF today has a certain number of regular units in Sinai, it can in the future--after Egypt begins reducing its forces--reduce its regular force in the south and base itself more on reserve forces.

In recalling the question of mutuality in the agreement, it is worth noting that As-Sadat insisted that Israel, too, thin out its forces along the length of the Negev frontier and even station UN observers there. Israel acquiesced in this demand, thereby taking a step which it did not take even in the 1949 armistice agreements. Israel then agreed to limit its units in sections of the Negev, but no mention was made then of stationing UN observers on Israeli soil. This time, though, there is talk only of limitation in the 3-km-wide strip in our territory, along the frontier, which at most will contain four infantry battalions and three frontier police battalions (without armor or artillery), together with UN observers.

The destiny, too, of the Israeli early-warning station at Umm Hashiba also depends, apparently, on the subject of mutuality and cooperation. According to the framework agreement, Umm Hashiba is in the area from which the IDF will withdraw within a period of between 3 to 9 months after signing the peace agreement. That is to say, within a year the IDF will have to vacate this important station. No mention is made in the agreement of its fate, and from this (it may be assumed) that it, too, will have to be vacated. It may be assumed that if we were to ask to leave it where it is the Egyptians would demand permission to establish a warning (deterrent) strip in Sinai, close to the border with Israel.

Israel is faced with a problem that is not simple. It will have to decide whether the data we are collecting at Umm Hashiba is equivalent to the danger of information that may be acquired by the Egyptians in their warning station, which will be close to the international boundary. This is a problem that has yet to be settled, and was therefore left open in the agreement. In the relevant clause it only says: "It is possible to establish early warning stations in order to insure fulfillment of the conditions of the agreement." When the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt comes into force, the security accent will turn to the eastern front. This will be seen in a number of spheres--from concentration of forces, planning and building right through to budgetary allocations. The threat hanging over Israel because of this will be different in character from that of the past. I know no serious expert who claims that Al-Asad would dare to risk a premeditated war against Israel without Egyptian assistance. Most certainly Husayn would not think of it. Even if Al-Asad were to decide that it would be better for him to take a chance to be able to drag Egypt from the path of peace which it has chosen to the ways of war, the threat from the north is not similar to the threat when war was likely to develop on two or three fronts simultaneously.

From this it seems the immediate security danger threatening in the east appears to be more one of terror and guerrilla warfare, especially with the PLO attempting, most probably, to step up its activities after the Camp David agreements, in order to cast doubt on arrangements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and in order to take control from within. As long as there will be a PLO attempt to dominate the administration in the territories in a quiet manner, Israel will not be able to do much. The question may be asked as to how much freedom it will have if the terror organizations decide to use terror methods. In the prime minister's original plan for autonomy and self-rule it was said that Israel would be given responsibility for "security and public order." The IDF would keep general security, mainly against enemy military penetration. It would stay away from populated areas and leave control over criminal matters in the hands of the local police. The general security service (Shin Bet) would continue with its activities against hostile organizations and against terrorists. It is clear that it would not be as easy for it to operate as it is today, but experts believe that in spite of everything it will be able to cope successfully with terrorist organizations.

When the prime minister prepared his plan, he consulted with the security services on the matter. The reply he received was that the security forces would be able to stand up to the challenge if one was speaking of autonomy which would be established after peace was reached with Egypt, and if the security services were to enjoy full authority in the field. The Camp David deliberations saw a few adjustments also in this delicate area. The clause's formulation was unclear and left a loophole for varied and opposing interpretations. When a local police force is mentioned, it is obvious that this will be a force composed of local residents (i.e., Arabs, but it is possible to claim that local residents are also settlers in the Israeli settlements).

As for other security matters, such as a clandestine war against terror and so forth, the agreement says: "The police will establish continuing liaison relations in matters of internal security with Israeli, Jordanian and Egyptian officials, who will be decided upon for this purpose." It should not be understood from this that the Shin Bet will have the power of decision concerning who to arrest and who to bring in for interrogation by its people. "Continuing liaison relations" are nothing but consultations and the offering of recommendations. It should not be assumed from this definition that the local police will be obliged to operate according to this recommendation. It should be assumed that if Jordan enters as an additional, full partner to the agreement, its people will take care of the elimination of the terror organizations. But if Jordan abstains from partnership, this issue is likely to be a serious stumbling block and the way that this will be overcome will decide how things will look between us and the Egyptians.

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